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Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu is given a tour of Hebron yesterday by residents. He and 13 other Likud members expressed their solidarity with the Jewish settlement there. (Story, Page 2)

Rabin: IDF will pull out from parts of Hebron

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL will evacuate unspecified parts of Hebron, but its security forces will retain freedom of movement throughout the city, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin indicated in a television interview yesterday.

He spoke just as top Israeli and Palestinian negotiators were poised to discuss the future of the city, one of the final hurdles to a self-rule agreement.

It was the first time that Rabin has said publicly that Israel would withdraw from any part of Hebron. However, it did not seem to resolve the problem.

As Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat met last night in Taba for the start of marathon discussions, expected to continue through Friday, their differences over Hebron were becoming increasingly clear. The lines seemed to be drawn between Israel's concept of partiality and the Palestinian concept of graduality, leading to a total IDF withdrawal.

At midnight, Peres and Arafat were meeting for a second session. Before the meeting, Peres told reporters that even if the issue of Hebron is resolved, there remain many other areas of contention, Israel Radio reported.

Palestinian negotiators have said repeatedly over the last few days that they do not mind Israel remaining in part of the city on a "temporary" basis. At the same time, sources who have met with Arafat recently say he wants the self-rule agreement to make clear

that Hebron is no different than the other cities in the territories, and that the IDF will ultimately withdraw completely from the city.

It remains unclear whether Arafat is insisting upon a specific timetable for a total withdrawal or would be content with diplomatic ambiguity.

Rabin's mentioning the idea of Israel retaining security authority in the city suggests an arrangement not radically different from Israel's "overriding" authority for all Palestinian villages in the territories.

In the interview, Rabin said: "Hebron will not be like the other six cities [in the territories from which Israel will completely redeploy]. Instead, there will be special arrangements that will safeguard the security of the Jewish residents in Hebron, Kiryat Arba, and Givat Hararsina, and enable Israel's freedom of movement for security in Hebron. "There will be some evacuation in places that we hold in Hebron, but not in the areas that are needed to maintain" security," he said, but did not elaborate.

Rabin said that Peres would be presenting this position to Arafat in Taba.

He suggested that a partial pullback is needed at least partly because he wants Palestinian elections to be held freely in Hebron. Palestinians living in Hebron have said they would boycott elections if the IDF stays in the city.

"I, as an Israeli and a Jew,

believe it would not be good to hold elections for a city of 120,000 Palestinians in the shadow of a bayonet due to 415 or 450 Jews," Rabin declared.

While saying that he opposed the initial establishment of Jewish settlements in Hebron, Rabin also stressed that he would not evacuate any of the Jewish settlers living there now, since he has committed himself not to uproot settlers during the autonomy period.

Another key issue in the Taba talks is the release of Palestinian prisoners. Rabin said Israel would not consider releasing those Palestinians who either "murdered or wounded" Israelis. At the same time, he left the door open to redefining his terms for prisoner release once a "final status agreement" on the disposition of the territories is reached.

Under the Oslo Accord, final status negotiations are to conclude by May 1999.

"We hope we can solve the problems together, all the problems that have not been solved, including Hebron," Arafat told reporters before leaving Gaza for Taba.

"I expect the meeting to be long. There is a feeling of caution on both sides, and the Palestinians came here with open hearts," Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafani told Reuters. "We want a deal. We want to find ground for a compromise to reach a deal."

"If [the talks] drag on, they will only get bogged down," Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said on Israel Radio.

PA plans to repopulate Hebron's Old City

JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Authority has launched a campaign to repopulate the Old City of Hebron and reassert the Palestinian presence in an area largely abandoned to Jewish settlers.

The decision was taken by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat in a meeting with a group of 30 Hebron notables on Monday in Gaza. Further steps, such as financing Palestinians who go there, are likely but have not yet been discussed, said Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe.

The steps were ordered as Arafat prepared for talks in Taba with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres last night. He is expected to demand that Palestinians take full security control over Hebron, later if not sooner. Israel insists on maintaining security control in Jewish-populated areas.

The repopulation plans are only on paper. But as a first step, the Islamic court yesterday moved back into the area close to the Wakf building, which never left the Old City.

The Old City once had a population of 10,000 Arabs, but since 1967, the number has dwindled to 1,000 under the impact of curfews, IDF roadblocks, and other measures which are more stringent than in other areas because of the proximity to Jewish areas, Natshe said.

The aim is to increase the number of Palestinians in the 500-dunam (125 acre) area, and to isolate the 450 Jewish settlers who live on only four dunams, but through the IDF presence and the absence of Arabs virtually control the entire area, Natshe said.

The Arab abandonment of the area increased sharply during the past year after the Machpela Cave massacre in February 1994.

"Since then, the army has prevented commercial activity and most shops closed down. On the main street from Bab a-Zawiye to the Ibrahim Mosque [Cave of Machpela], we are not allowed to go in cars. Stores have difficulty bringing in their goods. The cashah was closed," Natshe said.

He reported that "followers of Rabbi Moshe Levinger" burned at least two Palestinian flags, which had been flying from the Wakf roof yesterday.

Levinger would not comment. Aharon Domb, a Hebron settlers' spokesman, said that he knew of no flag burning and saw nothing new going on.

"The process has been going on for some months. I am concerned that there is a struggle for the Land of Israel between Jews and Arabs, with the generous help of the government," he said.

Liba'i, Palestinian justice minister exchange extradition demands

JON IMMANUEL

JUSTICE Minister David Liba'i yesterday demanded the extradition of seven Palestinians, while Palestinian Authority Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein demanded the return of four men he said were abducted by Israeli security forces in Gaza.

At their meeting near the Erez checkpoint, Abu Medein demanded reciprocity in the application of extradition. "Israelis want the agreement to be implemented by our side, but it should be implemented by both sides," he said.

Liba'i's list of seven included four wanted for the murder or attempted murder of Israelis and three wanted for the murder of Palestinians in areas under Israeli control. They all fled to

Gaza or Jericho. Abu Medein's list included Eymaan Barbah, 16, caught by Israeli forces near Khan Yunis, just inside the PA jurisdiction. He is suspected of attempted murder.

Liba'i said talks on the issue would continue in two weeks. "We want to see both sides implement the agreement, and the PA has an obligation to transfer suspects," he said.

The issue of reciprocity is a delicate one. Under the Oslo Accord, the PA is obliged to honor Israel's request for the "transfer" of "an individual suspected of an offense which falls within Israeli criminal jurisdiction." Israel is required

to hand over only "a non-Israeli suspected of an offense that falls within Palestinian criminal jurisdiction."

The PA has rejected every Israeli request to hand over Palestinians for trial in Israel.

Liba'i rejected an earlier assertion by Abu Medein that IDF troops massacred 400 Palestinians in the Khan Yunis area during the 1956 Sinai Campaign. The claim is against the spirit of the peace accords, and would lead to counter Israeli claims of Palestinian atrocities, he said.

The meeting was originally scheduled for Tel Aviv on Tuesday, but Abu Medein was prevented from entering Israel by security forces.

France defies global outrage over nuclear test in S. Pacific

News agencies

MURUROA

FRANCE defiantly faced a barrage of global condemnation yesterday, after staging a nuclear test in the South Pacific that buried its 1992 moratorium.

President Jacques Chirac vowed to stand "absolutely firm" against opposition to his plans to stage up to seven more tests, and said he would retaliate against any sanctions imposed on France, a government spokesman said.

The underground blast, with roughly the power of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, provoked outrage in many countries, and protesters clashed with police at several French embassies in Europe.

Trucks of riot police cruised through Papeete, Tahiti, in a show of force, after labor unions angered by the nuclear test launched a general strike.

The terminal at Tahiti's international airport was set ablaze with hundreds of passengers inside yesterday during a riot by protesters against the nuclear test, eyewitnesses said.

Renters correspondent said one end of the terminal building was ablaze. French riot police had responded with tear gas after about 200 stone-throwing Tahiti-

tians stormed the airport just outside the Papeete.

Hours after the test, which briefly turned the turquoise sea around Mururoa atoll an eerie white, before it erupted in a wreath of foam, engineers at the test site started preparing a second blast.

"Preparations for the second test are already under way," test site commander Gen. Paul Vercelet told reporters flown in under an unprecedented French policy of openness.

Chirac maintains France has to check its nuclear arsenal with a final batch of tests, due to end by May 1996, and that he will then sign a comprehensive test ban treaty.

Chile and New Zealand recalled their ambassadors from Paris.

The tiny South Pacific island of Nauru went furthest on the diplomatic scale of protests, saying it would suspend ties with France.

The US said it regretted the test and urged France to rejoin a moratorium on testing observed by all other nuclear powers ex-

cept China since the end of the Cold War.

Russia said it deeply regretted the French test which "dealt a serious blow" to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agreements.

Japan, fresh from commemorating the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki last month, called the French test "extremely regrettable."

Australia called the test an "act of contempt for the people of the region." New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger said he was outraged.

French Prime Minister Alain Juppe brushed aside foreign outrage at the test.

In Europe, Austrian police fought off protesters with tear gas as they tried to scale the walls of the French embassy.

France's closest European partners had muted reactions. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he disagreed with Chirac over the tests and had told him so clearly on several occasions.

French nuclear scientists said they had not detected any radiation leakage at sea level after the test.

PM: Netanyahu told Assad to wait for elections; Netanyahu: Rabin's accusation 'ridiculous'

SARAH HONIG

LIKUD leader Benjamin Netanyahu termed "ridiculous" Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assertion last night that he had signaled Syrian President Hafez Assad to wait on a peace agreement and conclude a better deal with the Likud after the next elections.

Rabin, who made the comments on Channel 1, raised a furor with identical charges several months ago.

"This is absurd, ridiculous, a fantasy," Netanyahu said last night. "I sent Assad no message or anything of the sort and I told Rabin that before. Yet for some reason he persists in these preposterous contentions. In fact I made it very clear, and Assad knows this well, that when the Likud returns to power the Golan will remain in our hands."

Netanyahu said he cannot explain Rabin's "continued pathetic harping on this theme. It could

be that someone had whispered something in his ear and he believes it. If this is so, it is a very worrisome indication about the level of intelligence at his disposal. It is very serious if he does not carefully and adequately check out information brought to him. Besides, how can we offer better terms than he had already offered Assad? Rabin has offered the entire Golan all the way to the

shores of the Kinneret. What are we supposed to add to this? To throw Tiberias in too?"

"This is a bad, sad joke," Netanyahu continued. "What is clear is that we have become Rabin's scapegoat. To hear him, the Likud is the Hamas's accomplice and now we are in cahoots with Assad too. Next he will blame us for the Israel soccer team's loss to the Slovaks. It is frightening to contemplate what Rabin will think of next."

Israeli, Arab youth complete peace camp in US; Gore: Kids are key to permanent ME peace

HILLEL KUTTNER
 WASHINGTON

ISRAELI and Arab youth are the key to unlocking permanent peace in the Middle East, Vice President Al Gore said yesterday in a 20-minute White House meeting with 135 teenagers from Israel and the Arab world, who just completed a two-week camp program in Maine aimed at breaking mutual stereotyping.

Gore told the group that the world fabric is woven by young people and that they are ultimately responsible for assuring peace.

"The future is in your hands," Ibrahim Khader, 14, of Nabulus quoted Gore as telling the group, known as Seeds of Peace.

The camp this year brought together Israelis and Palestinians, Moroccans, Jordanians, and Egyptians. Four teens from Bosnia, both

Muslims and Serbs, also participated. Shira Carmel, 14, of Jerusalem, called the experience "the most wonderful thing that ever happened to me," and said she had made friends with four Jordanians and six Egyptians.

During the camp, teams of facilitators led sessions on co-existence. The youths also learned to play American sports together and afterward discussed lessons in teamwork. A music and

arts competition was also held. The group is concluding a three-day stay in Washington, then flying home today.

At a luncheon on Capitol Hill, six senators addressed the group. Denver Nuggets basketball star Dikembe Mutombo then posed for photographs with the group on the steps of a Senate office building.

Both Carmel and Khader said their parents were wholly supportive of their participation in the camp.

"They thought that if I meet Israeli kids, I would get peace in my heart and be raised in peace," he said.

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Netanyahu, Likud MKs show solidarity with Hebron's Jews

LIKUD leader Binyamin Netanyahu led a delegation of 14 Likud MKs to Hebron yesterday to show solidarity with the Jewish settlement there, and said that he and his colleagues will come to Hebron if a decision to uproot the settlement is taken.

"The Jewish settlement will remain in Hebron permanently," Netanyahu said. "If someone tries to take it away, my friends and I will be here, and they will have to take us away as well."

HERB KEINON and Itim

Netanyahu said he thinks "it will be a fatal mistake to bring hundreds of armed Palestinian policemen here, and there will be a small area where the Jews can pass and where the police and IDF can operate. If there will be a conflict, the IDF will not be able to function and will quickly collapse with the Palestinian forces. This is a prescription for tragedy."

Netanyahu said he is worried about a time when there will be an attack in one of the alleys, and the attackers will run to the area under Palestinian control. Netanyahu said it is impossible to divide responsibility for security in Hebron: "There is one body responsible, and that has to be the IDF."

The delegation toured the Avraham Avinu compound, Beit Ha-

dassah, and the Machpela Cave. As Netanyahu was walking in the street, a Palestinian told him: "This land is for all, not only for the Palestinians or the Israelis."

You are right, Netanyahu responded, to which the Palestinian said, "You are against that. That's what we heard, through the newspapers."

"Now you will hear not through the papers," Netanyahu said, "I believe we should live together in this land."

Arafat under heavy pressure on Hebron

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat is under a lot of pressure from Hebron residents not to accept a compromise which will exclude Hebron from the overall redeployment plan, according to Palestinian negotiators.

The negotiators do not believe the Israeli government will evacuate the settlers from Hebron, thus special security arrangements must be worked out for their safety.

But this does not mean that the IDF should stay in all of Hebron, said Jibril Rajoub, head of Preventive Security in Jericho. "We can accept an IDF presence in Hebron, but this should be a temporary arrangement. The Israelis must understand that they can not get peace and security while keeping Hebron," he said.

Rajoub attacked OC Central

BACKGROUND
LAMIA LAHOUD

Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, who has said that the IDF can not share security responsibilities in Hebron with the PA, because of the explosive situation between extremist settlers and a large Hamas population.

"If Biran thinks that Palestinians and Jews cannot coexist in Hebron, then he should demand the evacuation of the settlers. It is not fair that the IDF refuses to redeploy from Hebron for 400 Israeli settlers, while there are some 150,000 Palestinians living in the city," he said.

He said the Palestinians can accept the presence of the IDF in those areas where the settlers are living, but want Palestinian policemen to be deployed in the rest

of the city. The most important issues for the Palestinians are normalization of daily life and the demilitarization of the Machpela Cave, according to Palestinian negotiators.

They suggest that unarmed Palestinian and Israeli guards protect the cave, while a joint mobile unit is on standby in case of trouble. They also want international observers to patrol the Old City.

Israel so far has agreed to joint mobile units. Another negotiator said that the Palestinians have agreed to an Israeli proposal for gradual redeployment, but want it to take place within a relatively short

time limit, while the Israelis want to connect it to the further redeployment which will only start six months after Palestinian elections.

He said the Palestinians also want a definition of partial redeployment. "It is not enough that they dismantle one military installation on the main road outside Hebron and maybe move one or two check-points," he said.

He said the Palestinians want a police station in Hebron, and they want more than 50 lightly armed policemen.

"If we want to insure public order, we need a well functioning police force. Fifty policemen are not enough."

Israel has suggested 150 municipal guards, some of whom may carry pistols. The Palestinians say these guards can not replace a police force.



At yesterday's action committee press conference are (from left) former MK Elyakim Ha'etzi, Col. (res.) Shlomo Baum, and Dr. Arye Bachrach. (Itzhak Harari)

1,000 reservists say they won't uproot settlements

SOME 1,000 reserve soldiers have signed a document stating they will not obey orders to uproot settlements, Col. (res.) Moshe Leshem, one of the heads of an organization fighting the Oslo Accord, said yesterday.

The document was sent to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Leshem, of the Action Committee for the Abolition of the Oslo Accord, said that some 30 percent of the people who signed the document hold the rank of staff-sergeant or above.

He said the signatures, including the person's army ID number, home address, and telephone number, were compiled at tables set up in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

He said the group will embark on a nationwide campaign to get people to sign the document, and hopes to get some 20,000 signatures.

"The purpose," Leshem said, "is to let the government know that it will not have the soldiers

HERB KEINON
needed to uproot Jews."

The document reads: "Uprooting settlements and Jewish residents by the IDF is inhuman, anti-Zionist, and runs contrary to my conscience as a person, citizen, and Jew. As such, I am honored to inform you that if you give me an order to do this, I will not carry it out. I am convinced that such an order is completely illegal."

One of those who signed was Lt.-Col. (res.) David Shamir, of Moshav Gan Yoshiya, who described himself as a former Rabin supporter.

"The Oslo process is leading us in the opposite direction of all my Zionist beliefs. My belief is that where you plant a tree, where you clear a rock, that is, your land, I oppose the Oslo process. I will not carry out such an order, and will try to influence those under me."

Leshem said that for "technical" reasons the petition was pri-

marily circulated among reservists, and not regular recruits.

Col. (res.) Shlomo Baum, another member of the committee that is headed by Elyakim Ha'etzi, said the organization will soon open "recruitment centers" for a project called Israel Responsible One for Another.

Its purpose, he said, is to recruit volunteers to resist the uprooting of settlements, or to man armed patrols on roads in the territories when the IDF redeployes.

"We will oppose force with force, but not with weapons," Baum said. "It is inconceivable that any government will use guns against Jews. If they come to pull us out by hand, we will fight by hand, and if they come with clubs, we will fight with clubs."

Ha'etzi said that armed patrols in the territories are not illegal, and that the organization should be viewed as a large security firm.



Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau yesterday visits Mara Frei, 29, who was wounded in Tuesday's terror attack in Ma'aleh Michmash, at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem. Her husband Daniel was killed. The hospital said that Frei is recovering, although her condition is still defined as serious. (Avi Hayon)

The major issues affecting Israel in Congress

CONGRESS returned to work this week, after its summer recess, along with the rest of official Washington.

Among the major issues of concern to Israel and the Jewish community that the two houses will tackle prior to the Christmas break are:

- Foreign aid: The House has already passed, overwhelmingly, a foreign aid bill that again reserves for Israel \$3 billion in economic and defense assistance, plus \$80 million for humanitarian programs.

The Senate Appropriations Committee will take up the bill next week and in and of itself, it is expected to encounter no obstacles.

The big question is what effect the continued congressional-administration stalemate over next year's federal budget will have on all government expenditures, including Israel's aid package.

Theoretically, the government could shut down when the fiscal year ends on September 30. If that happens, Israel's earmarked funds could be delayed beyond October 31.

HILLEL KUTTNER
WASHINGTON

- US-PLO relations: In the Senate, Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms introduced a bill mandating the terms for continued US-PLO relations. The House has no companion bill, but will most likely follow Helms's lead.

One question is whether the bill will be attached to the foreign operations bill. If it is, another fight between the two branches of government is likely, since the latter bill contains steep cuts Helms has proposed in the agencies handling foreign assistance, arms control, and information. The administration adamantly rejects the virtual abolition of those agencies.

In addition, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato is proposing a new bill to tighten PLO compliance with the Oslo and Cairo accords as a condition for it receiving US aid.

- Embassy in Jerusalem: The bill Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole introduced in May mandating the embassy's

move to Jerusalem by 1999 has now garnered 61 sponsors, and AIPAC intends to make a concerted effort to increase that number in the coming weeks.

Dole reportedly has not decided whether he will call for a vote on the bill before Christmas. If he waits until the new year - the start of the 1996 campaign season - he risks further charges by liberal Jews that his bill is merely a component of his presidential election machine.

But if 75 co-sponsors are lined up soon, it's likely Dole will seek a vote while he's got a healthy margin to override the veto the administration has said would result.

Another consideration is whether Sen. Dianne Feinstein, as rumored, introduces a bill that supports, but does not mandate an embassy move. If she does, there could be a lengthy consideration of a compromise between the two bills before a vote is called.

- Anti-terrorism: A bill has already passed the Senate and will soon be considered in the House Judiciary Committee. But what a Jewish community professional called "an odd coalition" of liberals and right-wingers has joined to question what they see as the bill's threats to the civil liberties of those suspected of terrorist connections.

The opponents are concerned about provisions that allow information contained in charges to be kept confidential from even the defendant as a means of protecting intelligence sources. Local militias have also opposed the bill for expanding the reach of the federal government. Sen. Arlen Specter, who chairs a judiciary subcommittee, plans to hold hearings on the threats posed by militia movements, and House hearings are also expected.

The administration is strongly behind the bill, and the Jewish community is supportive. According to the Jewish official, both are concerned that the urgency following the Oklahoma City bombing has dissipated a bit.

Arab man found stabbed to death in Jenin

BILL HUTMAN

A 27-YEAR-OLD Israeli Arab was found stabbed to death in his truck near Jenin yesterday evening, in what police believe was a criminal, and not nationalistically, motivated killing.

The driver, originally from the village of Mashad, near Nazareth, lived in the Netanya area in recent years. His name was banned for publication as of late last night. A passerby spotted the family-owned truck on the side of the road near the village of Yabed, in the Jenin area, and notified police, who found the body. Police sources said the truck driver, who had multiple stab wounds, was likely killed elsewhere. He worked transporting sand between the territories and Israel. He was having a financial dispute with several persons, who will be investigated, the sources said.

Rabin to visit Russia, Ukraine

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin will travel to Russia and Ukraine next week for three days of talks that will include discussion of a Russian-Iranian nuclear deal, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Rabin is scheduled to visit Kiev on September 12 where he will meet President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk and Defense Minister Valery Shmarov.

In Moscow, Rabin will meet

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and discuss a Russian deal to supply Iran with nuclear fuel. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said Israel was concerned about the deal "because we are worried about any possibility of increasing nuclear potential of a state such as Iran whose regime supports methodical violence."

Israel and Ukraine are due to sign a political memorandum of understanding. (Reuters)

Hundreds attend David Levy rally in Kiryat Shmona

HUNDREDS attended a rally in support of MK David Levy in Kiryat Shmona last night. It was the first such rally since Levy announced his decision to leave the Likud and run for prime minister.

Earlier, Levy, who intends to announce the establishment of an independent party during Hanukka, opened a branch headquarters of his proposed new party after being given a motorcycle escort to the premises, just off the main street.

"I think the momentum for the new party will come from the North, because David Levy has a lot of support here," said Albert Ezra, secretary of the northern region branch of the new party. "This is the first public rally for

DAVID RUDGE

David, which will set the ball rolling and help lay some of the groundwork for the new party."

Kiryat Shmona Mayor Prosper Azran, who has thrown his weight behind Levy, was optimistic about the prospects for the new party, in which he would be one of the leading candidates for a Knesset seat.

"There is room for a new central party, after both of the big parties have failed," Azran said. "There is no peace in the country, and there are problems between ethnic groups, between religious and secular, between Jews and non-Jews, between veteran Israelis and new immigrants."

Azran said the new party would put social issues and national unity at the top of its priorities. He was also confident that big name politicians would join the Levy bandwagon once it started rolling, even though that very few have joined so far.

"There are some who want to first be assured that the new party is getting off the ground and becoming established, and there are others who want to test their chances first in their own parties," Azran said.

"This rally is kind of a litmus test. Nobody holds public rallies anymore, so a good turnout is proof of people's support and that the new party will indeed be a party of the people."

PLO envoy says Libya not expelling Palestinians

TUNIS (Reuters) - The PLO envoy in Tripoli said yesterday that Libya was not expelling Palestinians, but sources there said some had been ordered to leave cities in central Libya and had moved to Tripoli and Benghazi.

"I can say that no Palestinian was expelled," the PLO's ambassador in Tripoli Ali Mohamed Mustapha told Reuters on the telephone.

At a speech on September 1 marking the 26th anniversary of

his accession to power, Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, who opposes the PLO-Israeli peace treaty, appealed to Arab states to expel Palestinians in order to force the economic collapse of the PLO-run Gaza strip.

"No one Palestinian has been affected so far, and the truth is that the Libyan people are housing the Palestinians as always," Mustapha added.

Unnamed Palestinian officials in Gaza said on Sunday that 450

Palestinians were expelled through the Egyptian border at the end of August.

But Mustapha said an undetermined number of Palestinians who left Libya recently did so voluntarily.

As a way to put more pressure on the PLO Gaddafi had threatened last year to deport 30,000 Palestinians but so far no mass expulsions have been reported.

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سكوت الراجل

IEC: No nuclear plants for next 20 years

RACHEL NEIMAN

NUCLEAR power plants will not be built here for at least 20 years, Israel Electric Corporation general manager Rafi Peled said yesterday.

"Nuclear power is a clean energy source until something goes wrong," he said. "As things stand now, nuclear energy appears to have a future [although] things are still unclear at present. The Chernobyl disaster caused the death of 600,000 people."

Peled pointed out that Western nuclear plants have far higher safety levels than their Russian

counterparts, and that 80% of France's power comes from nuclear plants. As fossil fuel sources are depleted, he continued, Israel will have no recourse but to use nuclear power.

"IEC is conducting a low level of activity concerning nuclear power," said Peled. "In addition to the existing dangers of nuclear energy, Israel must take into account the possibility of terrorist activity, which further reduces the possibility of establishing a nuclear power plant in the foreseeable future."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan, Israel discuss more Bosnian aid
Environment Minister Yossi Sarid met with Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan in Amman yesterday to discuss further efforts by the two countries to aid Bosnian refugees.

Two months ago, Sarid and Hassan headed an operation in which the two countries sent medical and food supplies to the refugees. After the meeting, Sarid said it is likely that Jordan and Israel would soon conduct a similar mission, this time with the participation of Turkey. Today, Sarid will sign an Israeli-Jordanian environmental cooperation agreement in Akaba.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Remand extended for man planning attack
The remand of Gil Dahari, of Jerusalem, suspected of planning attacks on Arabs, was extended for four days by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Dahari allegedly told an undercover police agent, to whom he sold two stolen pistols, that he intended to attack a bus bringing workers from Hebron to Beit Shemesh, and to set off car bombs in the villages of Yihye Ayyash, the engineer, and the Ramat Gan suicide bomber.

Itm

Haifa man indicted for murder

Avraham Gershon, 23, of Haifa, accused of killing Meir Fadila during a quarrel over the sale of a van, was indicted for premeditated murder in Haifa District Court yesterday. According to the indictment, Fadila sold Gershon the van for NIS 4,000 in early July, but only received NIS 3,000 in cash and a promise the rest would be paid. When Gershon failed to come up with the balance, he returned the van in exchange for a NIS 2,000 check, which bounced the next month. Gershon then took a knife, went to Fadila's home, and demanded his money. A quarrel broke out between them, during which Gershon threatened to kill Fadila.

Fadila and several relatives thereupon began beating Gershon, who started to leave. But the quarrel resumed, and Gershon pulled the knife and stabbed Fadila five times.

Itm

38-count indictment filed against Tsur

An amended indictment was filed in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday against private detective Ya'acov Tsur in the media wiretapping case. The 38-count indictment includes the tapping of phones, faxes, and cellular phones of media personnel, politicians, and businessmen. Sources said that although Tsur was promised the indictment would be canceled in return for his testimony against Ma'ariv publisher Ofer Nimrod and others, this is usually done after the evidence is given in court.

Raine Marcus

Study: Media depict women as victims

Sixty-five percent of women interviewed or mentioned in the Israeli media are victims of accidents or crimes — twice the figure in the rest of the world, according to an international study conducted in 71 countries.

The survey, published here by the Women's Lobby, showed that 72% of the women interviewed in the written press, 57% of interviewees on the radio, and 67% of those interviewed on television were victims, compared to 29% in the world. The percentage of men depicted as victims worldwide is 10%, according to the survey.

The Women's Lobby said the portrayal of women as victims in the media reinforced public views of women as weak and in need of help.

Itm

Jaffa police chief foils suicide attempt

Jaffa Police Chief Ya'acov Peleg yesterday rescued a 30-year-old woman who had barricaded herself in her apartment, turned on the gas, and threatened to kill herself.

As the gas smell grew stronger, he ordered other policemen away, and with the help of firemen who turned a hose on the doorway, broke in to the apartment. He found the woman unconscious in the kitchen. He then turned off the gas, and carried the woman to waiting Magen David Adom medics, who administered first aid, then took her to Ichilov Hospital.

Itm

Musical composition prize winners named

Composers Oded Zehavi, Ishai Knoll, and Haim Perlmutter have been named as winners of the 1995 Prime Minister's Prize for composition. Zehavi, 34, won the Engel Prize this year and the AKUM Prize last year.

Knoll, 49, winner of the 1981 AKUM prize, is a prolific composer and an executive in Paltov plastics. Perlmutter, dean of the composition, musicology, conducting, and musical education faculty at Jerusalem's Rubin Academy, formerly won two AKUM prizes.

Helen Kaye

'Passover Fever' wins for screenplay

Shemi Zarchin won Best Screenplay at the Montreal Film Festival for *Passover Fever*, which he also directed. The film, featuring Yossi Shiloah and Gila Almagor, was a box office success and there are already negotiations ongoing for an English version. The film premieres locally on November 17.

Helen Kaye

Channel 2 still leads Channel 1

Channel 2 is still clobbering Channel 1. Although the gap between them narrowed in August versus its worst month, February, (27 percent), it was still 23%, with 40% of those polled watching Channel 2 and 17% Channel 1.

Helen Kaye

Free birthday calls for soldiers

Euronet and IDF Radio are collaborating on a scheme to let soldiers with no family here call their parents back home on their birthday for free. The birthday boy or girl can talk for 10 minutes. According to the IDF Personnel Branch, there are thousands of such soldiers.

Helen Kaye

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, ace of hearts, eight of diamonds, and ace of clubs.



Acclaimed actor Ben Kingsley visits the Western Wall yesterday. The star of 'Gandhi' and 'Schindler's List' is here as the guest of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. (Itan Harari)

Teva: MS drug will be okayed by FDA

JUDY SIEGEL

TEVA Pharmaceuticals yesterday categorically denied claims that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had not yet approved its multiple sclerosis drug Copaxone because its developers had presented "shoddy" proof of efficacy and had not carried out all required tests.

The Petah Tikva-based company hinted the "false and completely misleading" claims resulted from the fierce race by a number of companies making MS drugs to get the largest share of the market.

A few weeks ago, the FDA postponed its ruling on Teva's application for approval of its Copolymer-1 (Copaxone) drug. Teva stock fell in response to the news, as the company views the world market for Copaxone as worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

In trials, the medication has shown it significantly reduces the

frequency and severity of MS attacks and reduces disability from this potentially disabling autoimmune disease. It also proved safe and with few side effects.

Teva deputy director-general Dr. Aharon Schwartz, who holds the Copaxone portfolio at the company, said the delay is only technical and that he expects approval will be forthcoming shortly.

However, in two articles in yesterday's *Ha'aretz* citing unnamed "scientists," economic reporter Zvi Rabin said that "essential," rather than technical problems "raised doubts" about the Teva drug, which was developed over several decades by leading Weizmann Institute scientists, including Prof. Michael Sela and Prof. Ruth Arnon. The articles claimed the researchers had not proven the beneficial effects of

the drug with large numbers of magnetic resonance instrument (MRI) scans of the central nervous systems of patients, and had not delineated the exact structure of the polymer molecule. The unnamed sources also maintained Teva had not supplied the FDA with a detailed explanation of how the drug actually works.

A respected US neurologist, Dr. Richard Rudick, who coordinated trials of an MS drug developed by the Biogen company of Massachusetts, said yesterday that "evidence on the effects on disability by Copaxone is not convincing ... I probably wouldn't use [it] on my patients."

Teva, in a statement released after the *Ha'aretz* articles, charged the reporter received "tendentious material from unnamed scientists and experts," and the FDA is very familiar with how Copaxone works and how it is structured.

Histadrut selling dozens of properties

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut's assets company has put on sale 46 of its 700 properties throughout the country, estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars, in an effort to raise funds to cover the Histadrut's debts.

The Histadrut has also recently put out a \$150 million tender for the large lot in front of its Arlosoroff Street headquarters.

Assets company director-general Erez Litan yesterday published a list of 30 properties, estimated at \$46 million, which the company put on sale recently.

These include six lots on Tel Aviv's Be'er and Nehardea streets, a culture club, basement and lot in Tel Aviv, Beit Zucker-

man in Herzliya, a club in Atlit, a lot in Bat Yam, five lots in Holon, four apartments in Safed, an office in Hadera and other buildings and properties in Haifa, Jerusalem, Tiberias, Hatzor, Kfar Sava, Sderot, Ofakim, Bnei Brak, Nazereth, Rehovot and Gedera.

Last week, the Histadrut put Beit Tavori, near Dizengoff Circle, on sale for \$2.2 million.

Beit Tavori has served for decades as the Histadrut's main culture center, in which it held courses, lectures, activities for new immigrants and a pensioners' college. The building also

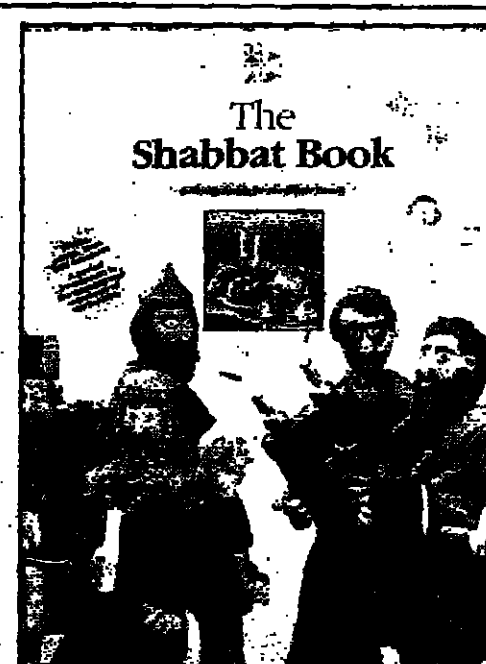
houses a large library.

The building's city taxes alone (arnona) cost the Histadrut NIS 80,000 a year.

Also last week, the Histadrut mortgaged its labor council building, Beit Brenner, in Tel Aviv to help finance its budget.

Judy Siegel adds:

Kupat Holim Clalit has put on sale one of its largest assets, the Arza rest home covering 54 dunams in Motza, west of Jerusalem. The financially strapped health fund yesterday published a tender for sale of the property. Potential buyers are asked to send bids to Clalit headquarters before October 24 at noon.



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PA to oversee Arab private schools in J'lem

BILL HUTTMAN

THE government will allow the Palestinian Authority to continue to oversee the private school system in eastern Jerusalem, despite the Oslo prohibition of PA activity in the city, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein revealed yesterday.

The PA is also to be permitted to distribute final examinations to all the Arab schools in Jerusalem, including those that are state-run, Rubinstein said.

Mayor Ehud Olmert has been battling PA influence in the city's Arab schools, which he says violates the Oslo Accord, and is an affront to Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem.

Rubinstein said the he and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin back Olmert's decision to forbid schoolbooks with PA insignia from being distributed in Jerusalem's state-run Arab schools.

The decision to impound the books until the PA seals are covered was made by the municipality and government, according to Rubinstein.

However, the government will not prevent the PA books from being distributed in private schools, which make up about half the city's Arab school system.

The contents of the books remain basically the same as in the past, when they were taken directly from the Jordanian education system. This year, the PA, in coordination with Jordan, simply put their own covers on the books.

"We are talking about private, not public institutions, in whose

affairs we do not interfere," said Rubinstein. "It is the same with Jewish private schools, where we also have little say in what is taught."

"For years, we have seen examples where even inciteful material has been taught in private schools, and we have never interfered," Rubinstein said.

Rubinstein indicated that PA educational activities in private schools will not be interfered with. Those activities began last year, but there was no formal Israeli policy on how to deal with them.

"I still have not consulted with the ministry's legal advisors" about allowing the PA to run some schools and distribute the matriculation exam, Rubinstein said. "But I don't believe it violates the Oslo Accord."

He said the government "is not planning to take action" against the PA's plans to distribute matriculation exams with its insignia in all schools in eastern Jerusalem.

Israel could, as with the school books, demand that the insignia be removed or covered. However, "these exams are important to the pupils' future studies, in Egypt or Jordan for instance, and we don't want to harm their chances to go on to university," Rubinstein said.

"It's an external matter. On internal matters, such as the school books, we will take steps. But this is different."

(The full story on PA inroads in Jerusalem's Arab school system will appear in tomorrow's paper.)

Arab educational leaders demand security for schools

THE Arab educational leadership yesterday called on the government to provide security guards for Arab schools, which they said are exposed to danger from Jewish extremists and drug dealers.

At a Tel Aviv press conference, Dr. Khale Khazan, head of the Arab Education Monitoring Committee, said if the government does not provide security for Arab schools within a month, the entire system would strike.

He noted that Arab schools are not included in the budget set aside by the Education Ministry for school security.

There are about 500 schools in the Arab system.

Khazan said there has hardly been a revolution in the Arab

school system, as described by Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein.

He said 20 percent of classrooms are not up to standard, 66% of schools don't have a counselor's room, 80% don't have a lecture hall or gym, and 90% are lacking a dentist's room.

"While other schools are talking about computerization, the Internet, and multimedia, we are still talking about physical conditions," he said, adding that there is no Arab school which has air-conditioning.

Khazan said in 1995, 86% of Arab pupils failed to get a high school matriculation certificate, and the dropout rate is 56%, compared with 17% for Jewish youth.

(Itm)

Soldier indicted for rape

AMIR ROZENBLIT

A SOLDIER was charged in Beersheba District Court yesterday with raping a 15-year-old girl and sexually molesting a six-year-old girl.

The soldier, 19, allegedly raped the 15-year-old in July when she came to visit his sister. He enticed her into his room by saying he wanted to show her his army paraphernalia, then locked the door when she came in. He tore off her clothes and raped her, according to the charges. The suspect was also charged with sexually molesting a six-year-old who he offered to take for a ride on his motorcycle.

The soldier was arrested last week and confessed. At yesterday's hearing, the judge also remanded him for another 48 hours, rejecting a request by his lawyer to allow him to return to his army base.

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* The fashion show is one of the events marking the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Libi Fund.

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NATO strikes to punish Serbs for failure to withdraw

NATO warplanes returned to the skies over Bosnia yesterday and attacked Serb targets in punishment for the rebels' steady refusal to pull heavy weaponry from around Sarajevo.

There was no indication the Serbs would comply with the demand to end the siege of Sarajevo, and UN officials speculated the lack of response could be a sign of disarray in the Bosnian Serb leadership.

Bad weather, which cut short NATO bombing raids on Tuesday, continued over Sarajevo yesterday. But NATO officials said the air campaign was proceeding.

"We have plenty of targets. We have plenty of work left to do," US Adm. Leighton Smith, the NATO commander for Southern Europe, told a news conference in Naples, Italy.

Smith said reports indicated "very successful results" from yesterday's attacks, but he did not give details.

Bosnian Serb police sources in Pale, just southeast of Sarajevo, said the targets were installations near military headquarters in Han Pijesak, 50 km northeast of Sarajevo, and in Kalinovik, 40 km south of Sarajevo.

Bosnian Serb military commander Gen. Ratko Mladic, whose refusal to ease his grip on Sarajevo led to the air strikes, is from the Kalinovik area.

Later, the Bosnian Serb military reported raids on Foca, Nevesinje and Cajnice in southern Bosnia.

"We gather he's in a defiant mood," UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko said of Mladic. "But we hope this mood will change and he will start complying with our demands."

"Every day of NATO airstrikes means his army is being clobbered, and clobbered and clobbered. For this clobbering to stop, he has to remove the heavy weapons from around Sarajevo."

The United Nations and NATO de-

LIAM McDOWALL
SARAJEVO

mand that the guns be removed at least 20 km from Sarajevo.

Ivanko said the United Nations had had no contact with Mladic, and added that there may be a split between the Bosnian Serb military and political leadership.

"There may be a certain disarray among the Bosnian Serbs and that is why orders coming from one end are not being followed through the other end," he said.

A senior aide to Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic basically accepted the UN demands, but hours later Mladic rejected them.

One Bosnian Serb source close to the Pale leadership reported that a serious split had arisen between Mladic on one side and Karadzic and Serbian President

Slobodan Milosevic on the other. That could signal a shift in the Serb power structure, since Mladic recently had been allied with the powerful Serbian president against Karadzic.

Karadzic, speaking on Cable News Network, denied there was a split between himself and Mladic. "Everything goes very well, all of my personal orders are carried out," he said. "Even personal relationships with Gen. Mladic have improved."

The Bosnian Serb leader said that his side already had met most of the United Nations' demands, but that it could not leave Serbs around Sarajevo undefended.

There was virtually no movement of Bosnian Serb heavy weapons around Sarajevo, UN military spokesman Lt. Col. Chris Vernon said only one of about 300 weapons was seen moving.

Mladic apparently fears that if he removes his weaponry, his troops will be

vulnerable to attack by government forces.

Yesterday, Bosnian Serb TV showed footage it said was shot the previous day of several tanks and armored personnel carriers attempting to leave the exclusion zone. They were being blocked by women and children. "If they leave, who will defend us?" shouted one woman.

NATO showed film of laser-guided bombs hitting Serb communications centers and ammunition depots and exploding in clouds of smoke. The attacks were on Mount Ichorina south of Sarajevo, Visegrad and Han Pijesak to the east, Hadzici to the west, and a target near Sarajevo.

Smith said more than 1,500 sorties had been flown since last week, when NATO first took to the skies in the current campaign. That came two days after a mortar shell landed in the center of Sarajevo and killed 38 people.

(AP)

Two die as Pakistan's embassy in Kabul mobbed

KABUL (Reuters) - Two people were killed and the Pakistani ambassador was wounded when about 5,000 Afghans attacked the Pakistani embassy in Kabul yesterday in protest at Islamabad's alleged support for the Islamic Taliban militia.

Acting Defense Minister Yousaf Qanouni said Afghan security men had tried to contain the crowd, but lost control when a shot fired from the embassy killed a student.

"That's when the crowd became angry and broke into the compound and set it alight," Qanouni told a news conference.

He said protesters had attacked staff, including Ambassador Qazi Humayun, and killed a Pakistani official. He gave no details on the second death.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry condemned the attack and said adequate security was not provided to its embassy staff in Kabul by President Burhanuddin Rabbani's government, despite a warning.

"We condemn this mob attack on our embassy and we have conveyed to the Kabul authorities our deep concern that adequate security was not provided despite the advance warning," Najamuddin Sheikh, secretary at the Foreign Ministry told a news conference in Islamabad.

Qanouni said he had evacuated the embassy staff and escorted them to a military hospital, where he said ambassador Humayun was in "satisfactory condition". He gave no details.

London blames Dublin for cancelled summit

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain blamed Ireland yesterday for the last-minute cancellation of a crucial summit on the search for peace in Northern Ireland.

But the British government stood by its refusal to allow the IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein, to join all-party talks on the political future of the province while the IRA, fighting to unite Ireland, held on to their guns.

The news of the cancellation threw the peace process, launched in late 1993, into its deepest crisis yet. Britain acknowledged the seriousness of the moment.

"It is obviously serious, but it's something to be steady about," Northern Ireland Secretary Patrick Mayhew said. "We're disappointed, we're slightly surprised to be honest."

British Prime Minister John Major and Mayhew were due to meet later yesterday to discuss how to revive peace talks.

British demands that the IRA give up its arsenal had brought the peace process to a standstill in recent weeks, leading Sinn Fein to warn that 12 months of peace since the ceasefire was in danger of dissolving.

Officials in London put the blame squarely on Dublin for the cancellation of the meeting between Major and Irish Prime Minister John Bruton at less than 24 hours' notice.

"There was a change in their position. It's for them to explain why," said one senior British official. "We obviously want to press on... But the ball's now in Dublin's court."

Dublin has reacted angrily to suggestions that Sinn Fein had convinced Dublin to go back on what London had described as a firm agreement on the outcome of the summit.

Virgin Islands brace for Hurricane Luis

SAN JUAN (AP) - Tearing apart roofs and rolling seas that swallowed beachside hotels. Hurricane Luis ravaged two Caribbean islands and took a swipe yesterday at Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

Two people died in Guadeloupe and Puerto Rico even before the 1,100-km-wide maelstrom of wind and rain struck the Caribbean. It is one of the most powerful hurricanes in decades with maximum sustained winds of 210 kph.

Luis was slowly moving away from the Caribbean yesterday. The US National Weather Service downgraded its hurricane warning to a tropical storm warning for Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands.

With the hurricane 220 km northeast of San Juan and heading slowly to the northwest, shrieking winds and torrential downpours brought down trees and power lines in Puerto Rico.

Much of San Juan and the eastern portion of the island were

without electricity and water yesterday morning. Thousands of residents had sought refuge in shelters.

No major damage had been reported, but the hurricane's north-west track would bring the center its closest to Puerto Rico yesterday and weather conditions were expected to worsen.

Once the storm passes Puerto Rico by nightfall, bringing up to 25 cm of rain and storm tides of 2-3 meters, forecasters expect it to head north into the Atlantic and away from the US mainland.

But with Luis approaching, frightened residents of this island of 3.5 million people spoke of the legendary wrath of the Taino Indian god Huracan, from which the English word hurricane is derived.

People knocked the final nails into plywood boards protecting glass windows and did last-minute shopping for provisions, then waited tensely for what forecasters now say will be a glancing blow to Puerto Rico from the storm.

Chechens mark 'independence day'

GROZNY (AP) - Chechen rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev marked the fourth anniversary of his homeland's self-proclaimed independence by threatening to bring his "fire and sword" onto Russian soil.

In an interview with Associated Press Television, Dudayev said Chechnya is "occupied" territory and accused the Russians of failing to live up to their promise to withdraw troops.

He said Russia's war has laid waste to the tiny, mostly Moslem republic and Chechens have little left to lose by continuing to fight. "What else can we do?" he said. "No homes, no work, no cattle. And no prospects."

Dudayev spoke from a secret location on the eve of the anniversary. He planned a clandestine broadcast to his war-weary nation yesterday evening.

In the APTV interview, Dudayev - who has been in hiding since early in the war - ridiculed Russian attempts to catch him and told the Kremlin to stop its nine-month war.

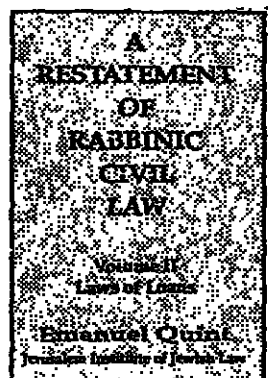
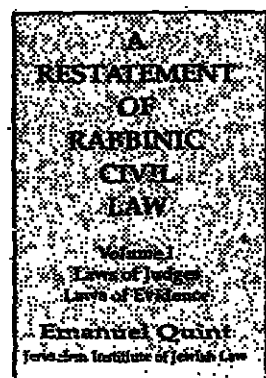
"If the fighting continues we will advance onto Russian soil, with fire and sword," he said. "We will come! Without a doubt, we will come!"

Although Dudayev's rhetoric is fiery, his representatives have been engaged in on-again, off-again peace talks with Russia for months. In July, an agreement on rebel disarmament and Russian troop withdrawals was signed.

The war, which has claimed thousands of lives, is presently at its lowest intensity since Russian President Boris Yeltsin poured troops into the breakaway republic in December to end Chechnya's bid for independence.

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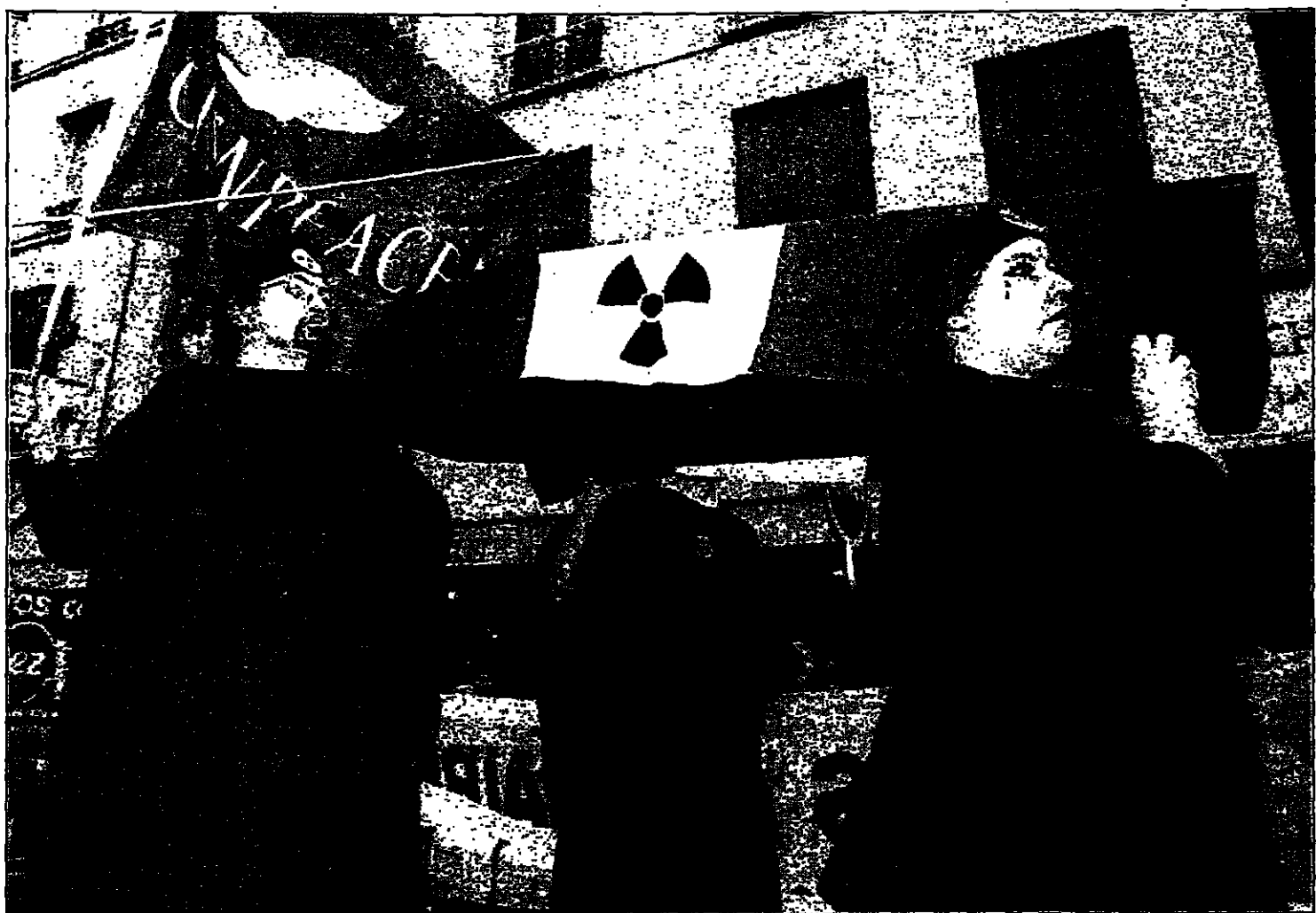
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A mock coffin draped with the French flag marked with a radiation warning is carried through the streets of Paris yesterday as demonstrators protested France's nuclear test in the South Pacific on Tuesday. (Reuters)

Britain slams Hillary Clinton for attacking hosts

News agencies

BEIJING

THE head of Britain's delegation to the UN Women's Conference yesterday criticized Hillary Clinton's attack on the communist hosts, and hinted that America's First Lady was playing for votes at home.

"If you look at the Hillary Clinton list of comments and if you heard how she put them, that was a full frontal attack," Lynda Chalker, Britain's Overseas Development Minister and delegation chief, said in a BBC radio interview from Beijing.

"I don't think that helps to change things. We work by quiet diplomacy."

Lady Chalker, a member of Britain's Conservative government, added that Mrs. Clinton's remarks upset delegates who had worked to set up the conference.

Mrs. Clinton electrified the conference on Tuesday with a speech denouncing forced abortions - an apparent reference to China's one-child policy, bans on some delegates attending, and a list of other human rights violations.

The United States and China tussled for a second day over human rights at the conference yesterday while behind the scenes

charges flew of an "Unholy Alliance" wanting to roll back sexual equality.

US ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright teamed up with First Lady Hillary Clinton to criticize China's treatment of women activists at the conference.

Both sides also had different versions of why the first lady's top aides were left standing in the rain during one of her speeches.

As the clock ticked down on the last hours of Clinton's two-day visit, China maintained a studied silence on replying to the US charges which include denunciation of Beijing's population control policies.

"No women - whether in Birmingham, Bombay, Beirut or Beijing - should be forcibly sterilized or forced to have an abortion," Albright told a plenary session of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women.

"It is unconscionable... that the right to free expression has been

called into question right here, at a conference conducted under the auspices of the UN and whose very purpose is the free and open discussion of women's rights."

One hour away at a parallel conference of non-governmental organizations, Clinton repeated criticism of Chinese treatment of thousands of women activists who have flooded into the country.

Many women said they had trouble getting visas and had been harassed and put under police surveillance.

"I know that you have had to endure severe frustrations here as you do your work," Clinton said to cheers.

When rain forced her to change at the last minute from an outdoor to indoor venue for the speech Clinton found out at first hand what some activists said they had been through.

Guards made Donna Shalala, head of the Health and Human Services Department and co-chair of the American delegation, and Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord, a former US ambassador to China, stand in the rain for 30 minutes before they were allowed in to the building where she spoke.

However the incident did persuade China to slightly lift the virtual news blackout on the first lady's visit.

"As the US side... suddenly

switched the venue to Huairou, many participants could not enter the hall," the Xinhua news agency said. "Many participants said they were indignant at the act of the US side," it said.

In the main convention center too, Amnesty International said some governments determined to roll back freedoms won for women were attempting to sabotage the meeting.

Debate over human rights by the 185 government delegations to the world's largest UN gathering could make or break the meeting, he told a news conference.

"We all hope it makes it. But we know there are some governments that are out to break the conference," he said.

At the last big UN conference in Cairo last year on population and development, the Vatican and its close voting allies, including Ecuador and Malta, were seen by opponents as trying to curb women's rights by objecting to wording giving women full power over their own bodies.

There is now a fear the so-called "Cairo clique" has been replaced in Beijing by an "Unholy Alliance" grouping the Holy See with militant Islam nations led by Iran that want to break a fragile consensus that emerged in Egypt.

"How can some governments at the end of the 20th century still be seriously questioning whether women are full human beings who are entitled to full human rights?" Sane said.

**18
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مكتبة القدس

Beirut shows its age as archeologists dig

ARCHAEOLOGISTS at the world's largest urban dig are rewriting the history of Beirut. New finds extend the city's known existence thousands of years back to when it was a Canaanite port in 3000 BCE.

Finds include the bejeweled body of a young Canaanite girl from 2200 BCE in a funerary jar, Roman mosaics and sarcophagi, Greek funeral remains, a marble statue of Apollo, Phoenician city walls and fortifications, the street plan of Phoenician Beirut, and cooking utensils and household goods dating back to 1400 BCE.

Layers of Canaanite, Phoenician, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Mameluke and Ottoman civilizations have been unearthed since digs began in the heart of Beirut in September 1993.

About 150 archeologists from the Netherlands, France, Italy, Germany, Britain, Poland and Lebanon are excavating a dozen sites totaling 40,000 square meters in the city center. In the aftermath of the civil war, the area is being rebuilt by Solidère, Lebanon's biggest company.

"Beirut has now become known to us as a city established in the third millennium BCE," said Hareth Boustani, an archeology professor appointed by Solidère to coordinate with Lebanon's Directorate of Antiquities on the digs.

"We were looking for the unknown history of Beirut," added Prof. Leila Badr, director of the archeology museum at the American University of Beirut. "Nothing was known of Beirut in the third and second millennium BCE. We were wondering if it ever existed at that time."

"We located the Bronze Age city. We discovered two city walls from that period, one of which is really monumental and beautiful as it has a gate and stairway that lead to the higher level of the city, which was totally destroyed by the later Ottoman infrastructure," said Badr, who directed one of the digs.

One prize the digs have failed to uncover is Beirut's famous law school, the most respected in the

Roman empire before the city of Berytus was destroyed by an earthquake in 551 CE.

"We are still looking for the remains but we haven't found anything yet," Boustani said.

EXCAVATIONS have shown that the location of Beirut's commercial district has changed little in thousands of years.

"Souk al-Tawili Street, famous as the commercial center of pre-war Beirut, turned out to be built on the commercial street of the Byzantine, Roman, Hellenistic and earlier Phoenician days," Boustani said.

"The Phoenician urban planning we discovered contradicts the widespread belief that Greeks were the first to plan the city of Beirut. Actually the post-Phoenician civilizations planned along Phoenician lines," added Prof. Hussein Sayegh.

Sayegh's team from the Lebanese University uncovered a Phoenician residential quarter with houses lining streets two meters wide.

A unique and magnificent Canaanite stone wall dating from about 3000 BCE has also been discovered around the Beirut tel - a 10,000 sq.m. area near the coast, of which 2,300 sq.m. have been excavated so far.

At one end of the tel, a funerary jar in which a three-year-old Canaanite girl was buried in 2200 BCE was found. "The girl had a gold and semi-precious-stone necklace around her neck," Badr said.

In the same area, Bronze Age household items were found in a stone room. "We found a big collection of cooking pots, plates, jugs, cups, bronze darts and oil lamps in very good condition, almost intact, dating back to between 1400 BCE and 1300 BCE," Badr said.

Also in the tel area archeologists found a wall believed to be part of the fortifications of the Phoenician city.

Some archeologists believe the Phoenicians, a seafaring people who lived in what is now Lebanon, took their name from the

Phoenicia, a Canaanite tribe involved in the sea trade.

The Phoenicians identified themselves by their tribal name when traveling abroad and the Greeks later applied the name Phoenicians to the general Canaanite population.

In the nearby Sai'fi area - thought to be on the edge of the Phoenician city - archeologists found a semicircular wall of yellow rock, probably the remains of a defensive tower.

The Roman occupation of Beirut destroyed almost all features of the Hellenistic city, but fragments of Hellenistic objects have been discovered, Boustani said.

They include bits of jars from Rhodes, and lacrimatories - usually found in tombs - which held the tears of the people burying the dead.

Roman remains include 24 sarcophagi of white marble and carved stone and 500 sq.m. of colored mosaics depicting animals and geometric designs.

(Reuters)

How Bob brought hope to the troops

ONE of America's biggest war heroes is a man who never enlisted in the service and never fought in battle.

Armed with jokes, Bob Hope made soldiers laugh and forget about the carnage around them, if only for a few hours.

Since May 1941, when he and Bing Crosby put on a show at March Air Field in California, "GI Bob" has entertained the troops in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf war, and at US bases around the world.

With 10,000 veterans gathered in Hawaii last week to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, Hope came, too, to put on a show at the Waikiki Shell.

"It wouldn't be an end-of-the-war anniversary without him. 'The same troops? I don't know if it's safe to come back.' Hope deadpanned Thursday.

At 92, Hope is slowing down, his hearing failing. Still, his memories are vivid and his eyes shine as he tells his war stories.

Like when he tried to enlist after the attack on Pearl Harbor, but couldn't because president Franklin D. Roosevelt had other plans for him and Bing Crosby.

"He asked us not to and said, 'I think it would be better if you

two just entertain, because you're very valuable that way,' Hope recalled.

Or the time a soldier in a tank drove up to the stage where Hope was performing, popped out of the hatch and said to the comedian: "Okay, make me laugh." Hope did.

At each base, he tried to let the soldiers know they were remembered. They remembered him in return, as a March 1945 letter attests.

"I was stationed in Algiers when you and your crew were there in '43. At that time I hadn't been overseas very long, but just long enough to really begin to miss the United States," a soldier wrote.

"I'll never forget the thoughts that ran through my mind when you walked out on that throw-together stage."

"I could see our living room at home, and my mother sitting by the radio laughing at one of your gags... for a few seconds I was back home and that did me more good than anyone will ever know."

One time Hope was asked by a woman to deliver a picture of a baby to his father, who had not yet seen the child.



President Clinton chuckles at Bob Hope's playful wince as they shake hands at the World War II commemorative service in Honolulu on Sunday.

Hope recalls: "So I got there and I said, 'Is Sam Schwartz in the audience? Come on up here.' I said, 'I just met your wife at the airport, and she gave me the picture, and she asked me to give it to you.' And, of course, everyone in that audience just loved it.

You know, that made me a hell of a hero."

John Steinbeck, covering the war for the *New York Herald*, once said of Hope: "He gets laughter wherever he goes from men who need laughter. It is hard to overestimate the importance of this thing and the responsibility involved."

"It is impossible to see how he can do so much, can cover so much ground, can work so hard and be so effective. There's a man. There is really a man."

(AP)

Autumn fashions: It's all in the legs

FLAIR

GREEN FAY CASHMAN

FORGET demure skirts. Forget naive or modest. Fashion for the fall and winter 1995 season is first and foremost a leg show.

Gibor Sabrina, which produces Can Can panty hose and knee-highs and has the local franchise for the manufacture of Chacharel and Nino Cerruti, lifted hems and held a strip show last Friday to reveal its new collection of sheer stockings and panty hose, along with the underwear and bodysuits produced under its own Fam and Fix labels.

Motti Reif, who directed the show - a subtle blend of sex and sophistication - borrowed the new season's outfits from leading designers and boutiques to complement the shiny hose, whose 15 to 70 denier strength was enhanced by Lycra.

Nothing makes legs look better than Lycra; and its clinging quality certainly helps to keep thigh-high stockings in place without garters or a garter belt. The more sheer the stocking, the greater the Lycra component.

Thus a 20-denier stocking may be 80% polyamide and 20% Lycra, whereas a 60 or 70 denier

stocking will be 90% polyamide and only 10% Lycra. When cotton is also one of the components, the Lycra content may drop to 5%.

While textured hose, which were popular for the past several winters, seem all set to stay, gaudy prints have given way to solid hues dominated by black, tanned skin tone colors, beige, cream, silver pearls and grays.

Black is also the No. 1 under-cover color, leading the lingerie pack. It's also going to be the most prevalent color in the street.

The revival of the anytime, anywhere little black dress or two-piece ensemble is going to result in something closely resembling uniform attire. Flip or figure-bugging black skirts, worn with black bodysuits, 40-denier hose and black, spike-heeled shoes are going to be de rigueur.

Even when the hose change color, either the underwear or the outerwear or both will remain black.

In fact, a strong likelihood at this stage is that the black mini-dress will remain constant, while the color of the hose changes with the mood.

The mushroom cloud and me: Reflections on the flip side of life

SARAH SHAPIRO

WHEN I was a child in New Canaan, Connecticut, where nothing ugly ever took place and the laws were green, the school buses were yellow, and all the parents at PTA meetings were married happily ever after, I sometimes couldn't sleep at night.

The mushroom cloud bothered me in the shadow of my night-light.

Its sudden, unearthly beauty, blossoming overhead and illuminating all the backyards with their elms and oaks, rendering the entire world poisonous, could sometimes, in the middle of the night, appear as real a possibility as a Norman Rockwell Christmas - though of course Christmas it-

self was real and unreal, too, since it didn't belong to me.

The atomic bomb was the flip side of life, the unseen and horrific, undermining all the peace on earth and goodwill towards men that constituted the ruling principle of our friendly suburb.

Since it never occurred to me to tell anyone, no adults knew that the mushroom cloud was climbing up into the sky inside my little head, more real and powerful, it seemed to me, than God himself.

The A-bomb was just a given. I was almost sure I'd die before reaching 20.

What is it that my own children fear while cuddled up in their beds? I don't think it's the atomic

bomb. France's resumption of nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific this week eats away at me, but the children haven't mentioned it.

They don't have fears that radiation in Australia will be blown our way on the summer breeze, that irradiated ocean water will make its way eventually to the Kimmeret.

The possibility of nuclear war doesn't get much attention in the Middle East; it seems abstract compared to the settlers' fight for land in Efrat.

I often wonder if my children's fears are anything like those I myself once entertained, and

practically speaking, how they are different.

For here in Israel the situation's quite the opposite of what it was during the Fifties and Sixties in American suburbs.

Here death isn't distant or invisible. It's out on the street. It's precisely on the bus to school that the possibility of death hovers, and in the house next door.

It is also, precisely those who are young, hardly out of childhood, who are frequently targeted. "They're almost my age," said my 16-year-old daughter after January's Beit Lid bombing, when she heard the radio report about all the teenagers blown apart.

There is certainly one way my

childhood fears differ from those of my children: The nuclear possibility rose up before me in a lovely world that seemed meaningless.

A vast void served as the backdrop for the mushroom cloud. Here in Israel, on the other hand, for religious and nonreligious alike, it's not the specter of the mushroom cloud that looms over our homes and streets and schools, but God: silent, kind, infinitely powerful.

And since in this country it feels as if God is as close at hand as one's family, right upstairs, overhead, then growing up next door to death seems simply to be increasing my children's basic love for life itself.

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The Arafat tapes

THANKS to the efforts of an independent new group called the Institute for Peace Education, the Israeli public has been exposed to what Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat says to his people. Since the vast majority of Israelis neither watch Palestinian television nor attend public functions in Gaza and Jericho, and since the Arabic newspapers do not report Arafat's public pronouncements which may prove embarrassing, the institute is the only source of information on the subject.

The institute obtains its information by recording Arafat's appearances on videotape, either live or from telecasts. It then gives the tapes to public figures who can publicize them. On August 2, MK Emanuel Zissman (Labor) showed tapes of Arafat speeches at a press conference in the Knesset, where Prof. Dan Sheuflan of Haifa University, an expert in the field, elucidated their meaning.

On Tuesday night, Israel Television showed a videotape of a recent speech, which the institute had given MK Binyamin Ze'ev Begin (Likud). This morning, both Zissman and Begin intend to hold a press conference in which they will introduce the latest videotapes.

What the viewing of the tapes makes clear is that in his pronouncements to the Palestinians, Arafat is as consistent as he is unequivocal. Repeating the same themes over and over, his message is neither subtle nor elliptic. Moreover, the original tapes are records of complete speeches. To infer, as the American Consulate in Jerusalem did in a memo to its staff and friends, that Arafat's words were taken out of context is to sin against the truth.

Most remarkable about these speeches is that Arafat continues to deliver them regardless of their effect on supporters of the negotiations in Israel and the world. When tapes were released showing him repeating his call for jihad against Israel after the massacres in Tel Aviv and Beit Lid, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was so incredulous he suggested the tapes were forgeries. It was Arafat himself who confirmed their authenticity, and only to pacify Peres did he "explain" that in calling for a "Long jihad, hard jihad, arduous jihad in the path of the martyrs" he was talking of moral rearmament.

In the latest videotape, a recording of a speech delivered after the furor over the "jihad" speech, he is again explicit. Explaining to his audience that the only reason he sounds the way he does is that "we are in negotiations," he

states, "But the Israelis are mistaken if they think we don't have an alternative to negotiations. By Allah I swear they are wrong. The Palestinian people are prepared to sacrifice the last boy and the last girl so that the Palestinian flag will be flown over the walls, the churches and the mosques of Jerusalem."

Nor has Arafat been shy about repeating another favorite theme: the similarity between the Oslo agreement and the pact the Prophet Mohammed made with the tribe of Koreish. Again he declares to his audiences' cheers, "If you have reservations about Oslo, I have a thousand reservations," and proceeds to describe the historic pact which was broken within two years, when the Islamic forces - having used the peace pact to become stronger - conquered the Koreish tribe.

When asked what these utterings intimate about Arafat's intentions, Peres responded, "What counts is not the intentions of the Palestinians. What counts is the confrontation between two realities." The two "realities" Peres likes to compare are the trends of the past and the forces of the future. And with what can only be described as neo-Marxist faith, he believes in the inevitable triumph of "the forces of the future." Often citing as examples the case of Europe (conveniently forgetting Yugoslavia, Chechnya and Georgia) and Latin America, he is convinced the world has reached a time in which conflicts are no longer settled through violence.

Perhaps he should heed what Egypt's president Hosni Mubarak recently said to an Israeli interviewer. "My friends, you are not in Europe. Had you talked of a new Europe, it would not have sounded too bad. But a new Middle East?"

And it may be wise to remember that the leadership in the Middle East has not undergone the changes which swept Europe after World War II. The rulers of Israel's neighbors are still the tyrants of the past, and the opposition to a reconciliation with Israel is by no means confined to Islamic fundamentalists. The intelligentsia and the professionals, even in Egypt and Jordan, are as fanatically opposed to the acceptance of Israel as are the fundamentalist militants. And if Peres and others in the government truly believe that Arafat has changed, and that a Palestinian state on the outskirts of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem can bring peace, they should acquire the videotapes of his speeches and study them very, very carefully.



In Pollard's footsteps

HUMANITY was, and possibly still is, threatened by Iraqi biological weapons.

It will not be forgotten, particularly by those living in the greater Tel Aviv area, that Israel was a primary target of Iraqi missiles during the Gulf war. If Saddam goes to war again, it's logical to assume that Israel will once more be an intended victim.

Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN team investigating Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, told the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* this week that Iraqi bombs loaded with deadly bacteria were ready for use in 1991. Saddam Hussein didn't use them for fear of massive retaliation.

However, were he, as his runaway son-in-law General Hussein Kamel put it, to find himself with his back to the wall, he would try to get himself into the history books as "the man who wiped out Israel."

Saddam admits to possessing a mere 50 kg. of bacteria for "medical research." But, counters Ekeus, the Iraqis have 1,000 times that amount of bacteriological material.

It isn't the first time Israel has been threatened with unconventional weapons. In the early 1960s, Egypt's president Nasser hired ex-Nazi scientists to build rockets to fire radioactive material into densely inhabited areas of the Jewish state.

Isser Harel, then Mossad chief, took bold steps to abort the danger. He even called off the hunt for Nazi war criminals to focus the agency's efforts on "discouraging" scientists from working in Cairo. At the time there were only two million Jews in Israel, and resources were meager.

Harel's efforts paid off when most of the scientists fled. Nasser and his generals came to inspect their rocket - and were nearly killed when the missile went up, did a U-turn, and came straight back down again.

In 1981 Menachem Begin also took direct action when his intelligence chiefs warned of the atomic bomb being assembled in a French-built nuclear power plant on the outskirts of Baghdad. He sent in the air force, which destroyed Saddam's nuclear plant together with its embryo bomb.

Today the same European

URI DAN DENNIS EISENBERG

powers, with France in the lead, are calling for an end to the embargo on Iraq. France and Germany were among the countries which supplied Saddam Hussein with nonconventional weapons in the first place. Now they want to continue their lucrative trade.

Hussein Kamel is detailing the billions of dollars spent by Iraq on illegal arms. Saddam's half-

Israeli intelligence must be revamped to face challenges like Iraq and Iran in the 21st century

brother Barzan Tikrit is currently in Geneva sitting on the countless millions skimmed off from the massive sums of money involved in the deals.

WHAT ABOUT IRAN?

Premier Rabin repeatedly calls on the nations of the world to act against Iranian-directed terrorism and Iran's massive buildup of conventional and unconventional weapons. Apparently, Iran will have its own atomic bomb within five years - leading inexorably to the question: What is Israel doing about this threat to its very existence?

Appeals to the international community are worse than a waste of breath. Such cries for help dissipate energy at a time when the country's entire intelligence network must be reconstructed to face the challenges of the 21st century.

Israel has to depend on itself. That much was demonstrated in 1967, when Egypt's Nasser threatened to invade. Despite sympathetic clucking sounds from around the world, no one lifted a finger to bring Nasser to heel. The job had to be done by Israeli soldiers.

And one thing is certain. Jonathan Pollard warned Israel of Iraq's bellicose intentions, and its unconventional weapons programs before the Gulf war. He also warned that Syria's Assad was amassing vast quantities of chemical and other unconventional weapons.

POSTSCRIPT

THIS IS A story of two women with long blond hair who, in the words of one detective, "look so much alike it's unbelievable." One of them spent 10 months in prison for a crime that police later concluded was committed by the other.

Melissa Gammill was freed after a Jackson, Mississippi, judge threw out her conviction and 10-year sentence for burglary. Daron Terry, who first identified her from a mug shot as the woman who burglarized his house in 1993, told the judge he had identified the wrong person.

"It was certainly a case of mistaken identity. These people look so much alike it's unbelievable," said Deputy Chief Jimmy Houston.

"Nobody had any reason to believe there was a lookalike burglar. It was a fluke," said Gammill's lawyer.

The mistake was realized when the new suspect, Pauline Bailey, was arrested in an unrelated case. Bailey is 27, Gammill 26.

Gammill was carefree, single

and working at a mall when she was fingered in the burglary.

In addition to the testimony by Terry Gammill had another big strike against her: she couldn't remember where she had been the night of the burglary, three months before the arrest.

Oddly, the two women were in the same place for several months but never met. Bailey began serving three years for burglary in the same prison where Gammill was held.

MORE GREAT stuff from the News of the Weird column in *Washington City Paper*:

● Robert Minahan, a chef who specializes in crocodile cuisine at a resort in Australia, was attacked by a two-meter crocodile while swimming. Said Minahan: "It feels strange to be on the other end of the food chain."

● The sect Tehrik-e-Nifaz in Pakistan declared that proper Moslems should reject the government's traffic rules and begin

By its own agreement with Israel, the US administration should have given this information to Jerusalem. But it was deliberately blocked by then-secretary of state Caspar Weinberger.

If, thanks to Pollard, the information was made known to Israel, how was it that the Shamir-Rabin-Peres trio that ran the country for most of the Eighties did nothing whatsoever to act on it?

Was it like the situation in 1973, when the Mossad repeatedly warned the Golda Meir government that Egypt and Syria were going to attack on Yom Kippur? Military intelligence rejected the information as being inaccurate - and the consequences of that war still linger.

Inspired by the spirit of Isser Harel and by past Mossad successes such as his alleged slaying of George Ball, who was building a "super-gun" to fire shells from Iraq into Israel, a massive effort should surely be under way to confront the challenge posed by the mullahs of Teheran.

Today, there is little sign of any such effort in preparation.

Shimon Peres, currently calling most of the shots in the Rabin government, was, after all, the man who bitterly attacked Begin for bombing Iraq's Osirak reactor in 1981. It is this mind-set which is so troublesome when the vital question of ensuring our safety arises.

Among all the doubts, Pollard emerges as a truly great Jewish hero. He passed on information to try and save Israel from its enemies - information which was Israel's due.

Reports from Washington suggest that Bill Clinton is planning to free Pollard just before the next presidential election, as a gesture to Israel. As Israeli elections are due at roughly the same time, the plan would also bolster the sagging popularity of the Rabin government.

Pollard should be freed. Now. He has been abominably treated. Who says so? None other than non-Jewish American judge Stephen Williams, who has called the sentencing of Pollard "a gross miscarriage of justice."

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.

Ties that bind

LARRY DERFNER

I'VE always liked being a Jew. On the whole, I like being with Jews. It's something about our warmth, our humor, our drivenness, our argumentativeness, our lack of ease in the world.

Let's face it - we have a lot in common. But there's a limit.

I read through *The Jewish Press*, the voice of New York's right-wing Orthodox, and see the paranoia, the Holocaust obsession, the adoration of Kahane and Goldstein, and I say to myself: These people are alien to me.

I see Israeli demonstrators screaming "traitor," "murderer," and "Nazi" at Yitzhak Rabin, whom I happen to support, and it's obvious to me that we have nothing to talk about.

Over the last year or so, as the Jewish far right has become wilder and more malicious than ever, it's been driven home to me that even though I'm a Jew, this does not mean all Jews are my people.

Not that I didn't know it before. How many Jews have I known whom I found offensive, contemptible, or abominable on personal grounds? How can I honestly say they are my people, if by "my people" I mean those who are closest to me?

But these were individual cases. As the opposition to the peace process has grown more vicious, I realize that there is a whole category of the Jewish people - a fairly large grouping within the right - that is essentially foreign to me. On so many important moral issues, what is good to me is evil to them, and vice versa.

THEIR CRITIQUE of people like me is that we are self-hating Jews, Israel-bashers, cowards, traitors, collaborators, kapos, and so on. How can I possibly feel any unity with them? And how can they pretend that they see me, a Jew in Israel, as one of their own? Forget it. They are as fundamental as I am.

Even though I'm a Jew, not all Jews are my people

tally alienated from me as I am from them.

Unpleasant as it may be, though, this enmity between some of us Jews is clearing the air a little about the nature of Jewish peoplehood.

We're learning that we do not each and every one of us, share such a strong bond after all.

Even though two Jews may both be descendants of Abraham, and both have the legacy of the Holocaust behind them, and both may even live in the same Jewish state, they can be light years from each other in their minds and hearts.

I think it's a liberating thing to recognize this. It means, after all, that there are non-Jews out there who may be closer to us than at least some Jews. It means coming up with a less ethnocentric understanding of who we are in the world.

For the religious, this is heresy. For Jews who believe each of us has a covenant with God, that each of us is one of God's Chosen People, then it's the Jews on one side and the Gentiles on the other. But not all of the world's 13 million Jews believe this.

One might say that Jews are bound by their status as victims or potential victims, that antisemitism doesn't distinguish between religious and secular, left-wingers or right-wingers. Especially in this country, we face a common enemy; the Saudis and Katsushas and bus bombs can kill you whether you vote Shas, Meretz or Molede.

All this is true, and it does bind us to one another. But as a basis for peoplehood, it's a little grim, isn't it?

When I think of who "my people" are, I think less of those with whom I share danger, or background, or land, and more of those with whom I share ideals.

And my highest ideals are not "national" ones; they are not exclusive to the life of Jews or Israelis.

When I think of "my people," there are Gentiles among them, and Gentiles who are not. The same goes for Jews.

The writer is a Tel Aviv-based freelancer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EXPORTS

Sir, - I refer to Sief Wertheimer's article of August 30, "Exports - the acid test."

A few years ago, I had a meeting with Mr. Wertheimer. The agenda was to be the absorption of North American immigrants. I can only describe this encounter as chilling. Mr. Wertheimer went on endlessly about the value of exports; literally nothing else interested him. Unemployment? Exports would solve it. Security concerns? Exports. Housing problems? Exports. In the course of our "conversation," there emerged an obsessive preoccupation with the subject of (here it comes again) exports and a tangential abhorrence of any other strategy society might choose to confront its problems and challenges.

Mr. Wertheimer has by all accounts been an extremely successful industrialist and entrepreneur. However, these accomplishments alone don't qualify him as an expert on the complex issues he feels competent to address. On the contrary, expertise as a capitalist has historically been a quality of those who are apathetic to the needs for a social orientation that includes all - "even" those not involved in exports! NEIL HASSID Netanya.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Sir, - In his letter of August 14, Dr. Abu Zafat of the *Al-Quds* newspaper writes: "Israel which appeared from nowhere and still occupies a land and a nation."

Since Dr. Abu Zafat obviously has not studied history, let me point out that Israel as a people and as a nation has existed for thousands of years right here in the Middle East, long before anybody had heard of Arabs.

If anybody "appeared from nowhere," it would be the Arabs some 1,400 years ago.

That Israel still occupies "a land and a nation" had never been the intention, but it was forced to do so as a result of 100 years of Arab violence and wars of aggression. The Arabs never having agreed to share their conquests and live peacefully with the original inhabitants who had finally come back to their country of origin. MAURICE A. HARTOG Haifa.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Sir, - As reported in the *Post* (July 30), Yitzhak Rabin "has called the failed Golan bill a racist proposal formulated to 'neutralize' the votes of the non-Jewish minority in the country."

To call the proposal "racist" is confusing, false and dangerous. Is a Canadian opposed to French Canadian separatism racist? Like our conflict with Arabs, the Canadian one is cultural, political and, in their case in a minor and in ours a major way, religious. But it is not racist. No word should be used more circumspectly than that explosive one, a favorite weapon of politically correct thinkers.

The rest of Rabin's criticism would be fair if it gave the whole case, not merely half of it. The non-Jewish voters have rights, but also responsibilities, foremost of which is loyalty to the state. This imposes duties on their Knesset representatives. Just as Jewish members committed to Judaism have special obligations, so do Arab members committed, however loosely, to Islam. In the wake of the recent massacres, one duty stands out above all others. They ought to formulate a solemn declaration that the age of suicidal Jew-killing "martyrs" is over, that henceforth such as these, as well as "Allah Akbar" shouting killers, are sacrilegious murderers.

They should then submit their declaration to the government, demanding, in the name of Islam, that it suspend negotiations with Moslem partners until they endorse this declaration and make it their own. EMIL L. FACKENHEIM Jerusalem.

PEACE

Sir, - Our government tries to convince us of two things. First, that since the collapse of the Soviet Union, we live in a whole new world. Second, that the peace process is irreversible.

I figure that, if the Soviet Union was reversible, the Palestinian Authority is, too. That also means that the State of Israel is reversible, and that's what we opponents of the so-called peace process are afraid of. CEPORAH M. LEVINE Jerusalem.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Sir, - Once again the *Post* has letters from readers protesting the harsh treatment handed out by the police to bystanders at right-wing demonstrations. It is more than a little surprising that so many of the letters come from people who happened to be in the area of a peaceful demonstration that included many women and old people minding their own business when they were suddenly picked upon by the police and then treated very brutally.

Come off it! If your readers believe that, they will believe anything. These were demonstrations organized by groups who knew exactly what they were doing. There was every intention of carrying on with protests that had been declared illegal and which could only end in confrontations with the police. They then have the hutzpa to complain when this indeed occurs.

For examples of peaceful demonstrations, I suggest that the protesters follow demonstrations held in the past to change the electoral system when an estimated 500,000 people gathered in Tel Aviv with hardly a policeman in sight. S. CANNING. Kibbutz Kfar Hamaccabi.

THEATER OF THE ABSURD

Sir, - The so-called peace process resembles a theater of the absurd. The red lines of Israel and the PLO are incompatible. There is a general consensus in Israel that Jerusalem should remain undivided under Israel's sovereignty. There is a general consensus among Palestinians that East Jerusalem should be returned to Arab control. Therefore, it is a foregone conclusion that the peace process is bound to reach a dead end.

Under these circumstances, it is important that world opinion should not put the blame for the break-up of the negotiations on Israel. This can be achieved by the following gambit: Israel should require that the Jerusalem problem should be dealt with after the PLO amends its covenant to cancel the paragraphs calling for Israel's destruction. Since the PLO will not comply (the required two-thirds majority cannot be achieved), the onus will be on the PLO. Dr. JACOB ROSIN Netanya.

The dangerous fun of ATVs

JOEL GORDIN

On a hot summer's night in July, 18-year-old Hila Mor of Rishon LeZion met a group of classmates for an end-of-term beach party on the dunes near Palmachim.

At about 3 a.m. the party was joined by a 23-year-old who owned an all-terrain vehicle (ATV). He first took Hila for a ride on the back of the ATV, then later persuaded her to drive while he sat in the back. She did not have a driver's license, and neither of them wore a crash helmet.

She drove up a steep dune, the engine cut out, and the ATV rolled backwards and overturned. The owner escaped with a scratch; Hila was crushed by the ATV and killed instantly.

Her death spurred the authorities into action. That weekend, more than 100 uniformed and plainclothes police officers descended on beaches and nature reserves throughout the country. They handed out 204 summonses to ATV drivers for offenses ranging from driving without licenses to reckless driving.

According to Transport Ministry statistics, Mor was the 20th person under the age of 25 to be killed in the past three years in an ATV-related accident.

ATVs resemble weird moon buggies. They can best be described as motorcycles with four wide wheels.

The combination of wheel balance, weight distribution and a powerful engine, can take them literally anywhere.

ATVs were introduced in the US and other countries about five years ago as agricultural aids, but were rapidly adopted as fun vehicles. The same happened here.

At first, the Transport Ministry defined ATVs as "agricultural machines" and decreed that they could only be sold to registered farmers.

The farmers' sons and daughters and their friends quickly discovered that tearing through dunes and fields on an ATV is

GIATV



With its four wide wheels on a motorcycle-like frame, ATVs resemble weird moon buggies.

more fun than a barrel of monkeys.

Everybody wanted an ATV, and many city residents looked up long-lost relatives on farms and moshavim and "legally" registered the ATVs in their names. This year, the Transport Ministry decided to put an end to the farce and now anyone can buy an ATV.

WORKING IN conjunction with the police and the Highway Safety Administration, the ministry put together a set of rules limiting the use of ATVs.

The most important ones are: Each vehicle must be registered with the Transport Ministry, have a license plate and liability insurance.

- The driver must have either a valid automobile or tractor driving license.
- The driver must wear a crash helmet.
- Only one person may ride an ATV. The driver cannot give a lift to a passenger.
- It is illegal to drive an ATV on a public road or anywhere after

dark.

• The ATV must be equipped with a roll bar.

It's one thing to draw up a tough set of rules, and another to enforce them.

One has only to visit any beach or forest to verify that a large number of ATV riders ignore the rules - often in front of the police.

Chief-Superintendent Yisrael Shalom, head of traffic police in the Central District, would not comment other than to say that "we do everything possible to enforce the law."

According to Gidi Katanov, an off-road driving expert who runs an ATV driving school near Mitzpe Ramon, "it seems the police are not familiar with the rules governing ATVs, or else they regard these vehicles as not important enough to bother about."

"It's not enough to have a one-time blitz and then sit back and wait for the next tragic accident. The ATV has a tendency to turn over if driven recklessly on sharp bends and it can somersault if it is mishandled up and down steep hills [as in the case of Hila Mor]."

Dror Goldman, one of the directors of Metro Ltd., the country's largest importers of motorcycles and ATVs, says: "Ironically, the laws here governing the use of ATVs are tougher than in the US, where they don't insist on a roll bar. Experts have pointed out that a roll bar is dangerous because it gives a high center of gravity, increasing the tendency for the vehicle to turn over."

It also prevents the driver separating from the vehicle in case of an emergency.

"The question of a roll bar may be controversial, but it is typical of our authorities to bombard the public with bureaucracy which is only enforced after an accident and then forgotten until the next one. It's no wonder members of the public lose respect for the necessary regulations and do as they please - with such tragic results."

Resolve your differences before vacation

DEAR RUTHIE

RUTHIE BLOOM



Dear Ruthie, My wife and I have very different concepts of vacationing. My idea of relaxing is to eat good food while surrounded by every possible creature comfort. I like to be pampered.

My wife, however, loves the outdoors. Give her a tent and a pair of hiking boots, and she's happy. We've always had this problem, but when the kids were young, I went along for their sake. Now, if I can't stay in a five-star hotel, I'd rather stay at home. My wife can't stand hotels.

Tenderfoot Tent Tenderfoot

Dear TT Tenderfoot, This kind of polarization probably extends to other areas of your lives as well. It must therefore be dealt with accordingly. If you "went along" for the sake of the kids for so long, their absence alters the terms of your nuptial contract.

After many years of marriage, it's easy to forget that the union was no mere fluke, but rather a free choice. You were not accidentally attracted to a woman who prefers back packs to back rubs; she was not drawn to a luxury-lover like you out of the blue.

Whether the two of you can bridge this gap depends on the degree to which each genuinely desires the other's company on either type of excursion.

Dear Ruthie, My mother-in-law is a loving grandmother. I have one major complaint about her, though. Whenever my kids stay with her,

she stuffs them with unhealthy food, and huge amounts of sweets. I have tried to discuss this with her many times, but she dismisses my complaints by making fun of my "Anglosaxi" background.

My husband agrees with me, but is not interested in confronting his overbearing mother. I'm often tempted to give her an ultimatum: As long as she continues, I will forbid the kids to visit her. I'd hate to go this route, however.

Angry Anglo

Beersheba

Dear Angry Anglo, Your mother-in-law must be an awfully shrewd woman to turn a sack of sugar into a double-edged arrow. She raises her grandchildren's spirits and daughter-in-law's dander all in one shot.

It's a pity that health is an issue, since turning a blind eye to her indulgence and a deaf ear to her insults would be the best thing for all concerned.

But ask yourself if you aren't participating in this little exchange in some way. Perhaps your focus on what she puts into the mouths of your babes is part of the problem.

If you were to invest more effort into praising her skills as a loving grandmother than you are into laying down the law, she might be offering more carrots than [peppermint] sticks.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Service on the side: Collapsible tables pop up when you need them

FIX IT YOURSELF

TAL KATZ

WITH the school year started (hurrah), as well as the holidays upon us (oy), again we find ourselves faced with insufficient work surfaces. The kitchen table is always stretched to its absolute limit, what with serving as a homework area, sewing center, workbench, and salad bar.

Collapsible tables installed into a wall, or into a niche, are a great solution to the above annoyance. Here's how to install them.

Materials required: a board of wood (of any kind, including veneer) not exceeding 120 cm length and 60 cm width, and at least as wide as the length of the collapsible bracket; a set of two collapsible brackets (mikan mit-kapel [shulhan] costing about NIS 50 a pair at most hardware stores; drill (makdeah) and 10 mm (3/8 inch) masonry bit (makdeah vidia) - if the board is coated with some kind of plastic, add: 3 mm metal drill bit (makdeah baszel); an awl (marzea) or nail (masnani); a set of four expansion shield anchors, 5/16 inch or 3/8 inch (ogen jumbo om) costing NIS 7-8 for a set of four; 6-8

wood screws (bragel etc) not longer than the thickness of the board; medium-size screwdriver (mavreg); hammer (patish) and small block of wood; self-locking pliers (plier patent) or nutdriver (buzza) of appropriate size to fit the nut of the anchor; level (peless); tape measure (meter); thin, sharp pencil; piece of chalk (gir) or masking tape.

Directions: hold the board against the wall (jutting outwards, like a shelf) to determine the desired location and height. Then, lower it flat against the wall at the same spot to see if the location is suitable for the collapsed position. (This is especially important if it is to be in a niche.)

Again, hold the board in the "jutting out" position and trace along the bottom edge of the board, including the corners, with a pencil. Put one of the collapsible brackets in its "open" position. (Do this by sliding its two sides away from each other until they lock in an "L" shape with a curved or straight bar holding the angle.)

Each side of the angle will have holes for screws. Divide the lengths of the board into four.

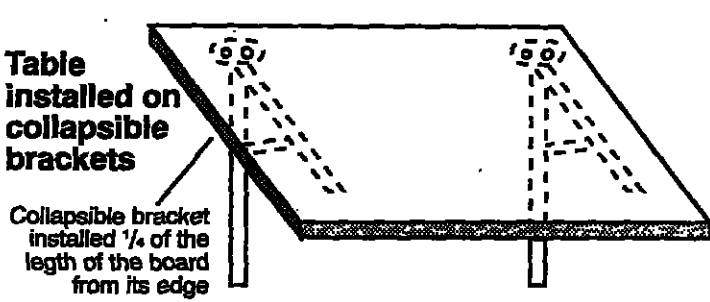
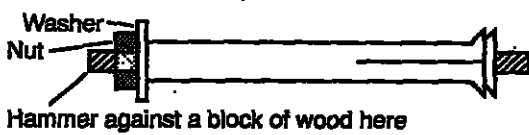
From one of the "corner" pencil marks on the wall, make an

other mark one quarter of the length of the board (along the traced line). Place the corner of the bracket onto this new mark (the side of the bracket containing the larger holes should be against the wall).

While holding the bracket in place, hold the level in a vertical position touching its outer edge. With very slight movement, adjust the bracket until the bubble in the level is exactly centered. When the bracket is perfectly vertical, put aside the level and, still holding the bracket firmly, trace the large holes at the top of the bracket onto the wall. Put aside the bracket and pencil.

Attach the masonry bit to the drill. Make a chalk or masking tape mark on the bit 6-7 cm from its tip. Drill into each circle on the wall up to the chalk mark on the bit. Insert one anchor into one hole (washer and nut side out). Hold a small block of wood against it and hammer until the washer is flush with the wall. Repeat for second hole and anchor.

Side view of expansion shield anchor



With your fingers, unscrew and remove the nuts of the anchors. Also remove the washers. Place the bracket holes over the two exposed threads of the anchor bolts carefully to avoid pushing them into the wall. Put the washers and then the nuts back on. Tighten the nuts with a self-locking pliers or with a nut

driver. Alternate tightening back and forth - first one and then the other - until both are securely fastened.

Make a pencil mark along the traced line, this time a quarter of the board's length from the opposite corner mark. With someone's assistance, rest the board on top of the installed bracket.

Open the second bracket, and hold it under the board against the wall. Slide it over to the mark you just made.

Place the level on top of the board - this time horizontally. Lift and lower the bracket and board until the bubble in the level is centered. When it is, bring the level down to the outer vertical side of the bracket to make sure the bracket is perfectly perpendicular to the board. (Note: if the board is not perfectly perpendicular to the hinges, it won't collapse, so take special care with the level.) Trace the large holes of the bracket onto the wall. Put aside the board, hinge and level. Repeat drilling procedure, anchor insertion, and bracket installation as before.

Rest the board on top of the two installed brackets, firmly against the wall. Center the board on the brackets. Have your assistant bear down on top of the board with both hands applying pressure. From underneath, trace at least two of the holes of

each bracket onto the underside of the board. (Drill a third if the board is particularly heavy.)

Place the board on the floor, underside up. If the board is coated with some kind of veneer, drill with some kind of veneer pencil mark just to break the coating. If not, start the holes with an awl or hammer and nail. With a screwdriver, insert wood screws into each hole. Drive each screw almost all the way and then remove. Replace the board. Have your assistant bear down as before. Insert all the screws a bit. Tighten all of them simultaneously, by alternating back and forth from one to another, until they all are secure.

Now the table/desk is installed. Slide your fingers along the brackets to find the release latch, which will cause the table to collapse against the wall.

If you have a question or can suggest simple solutions to annoying problems, write to: "Fix It Yourself," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

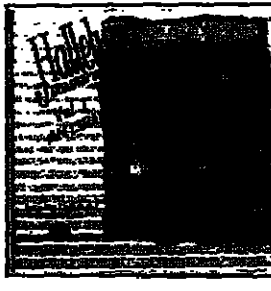
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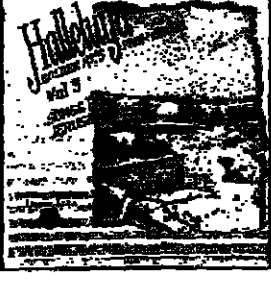
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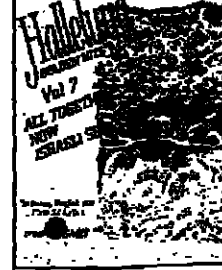
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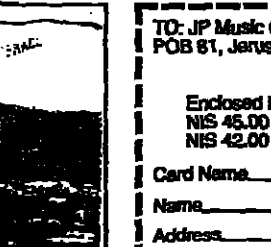


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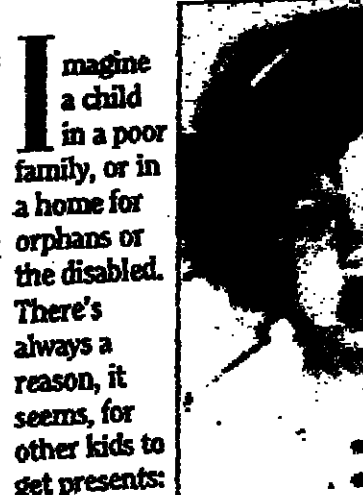


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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1995

Strauss, Unilever sign merger pact

RACHEL NEIMAN

STRAUSS Dairies and the Dutch-English concern Unilever signed a merger agreement yesterday which gives the multinational giant 50 percent of Strauss Ice Cream, a Strauss subsidiary that was set up for purposes of the merger.

"Both sides will enjoy significant advantages," Unilever representative David Parker said at the signing, which took place at Strauss's headquarters in Nahariya.

"Strauss will gain from Unilever's advanced technological know-how and use of Unilever group brand names, while Unilever will have immediate access to one of the largest ice cream markets in the region."

Strauss general manager Michael Strauss said he is convinced the partnership will turn the firm from a regional company into an international one. "The cooperative agreement with Unilever is part of the Strauss group's strategic plan and is a cooperation between two strong companies," he said.

Strauss will serve as board chairman of the new company. Unilever has indicated it may send a few managers to work with the new company, but the general structure will be similar to Strauss's former ice cream division.

Strauss Ice Cream will continue to manufacture Strauss



Unilever representative David Parker (left) and Strauss general manager Michael Strauss shake hands at yesterday's signing ceremony. (Photo Nahariya)

and Whitman products as well as products jointly developed with Unilever.

Well-known Unilever brands include Lux and Dove soap, Vaseline petroleum jelly, and Lipton

tea. The concern has been involved in ice cream manufacturing since 1920.

Boaz panel recommends Communications Authority

Group would strip ministry of most important functions

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Boaz Committee appointed by the Communications Ministry to reassess telecommunications policy yesterday recommended the establishment of a "Communications Authority" to advise the government and implement policy.

The committee, headed by ex-Treasury official David Boaz, issued a 28-page interim report with recommendations. Boaz said a full report would be presented to Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni by year's end.

The authority, which would resemble the US Federal Communications Commission, would effectively strip the ministry of its most important functions.

The body's major task would

be to encourage fair sector competition and to supervise monopolies and other bodies not exposed to significant competition.

In addition, the group would advise the government in licensing matters and regulations as well as allocate frequencies and supervise the electromagnetic spectrum used by TV, radio, and other wireless communications. The authority, however, would not deal with non-electronic mail services.

Other areas of responsibility would include rate supervision in areas with little competition, licensing, consumer protection, and ensuring that services are

available to all.

The group would have authority over the country's broadcasting institutions and companies, but would not intervene in broadcast content.

According to the proposal, the authority would consist of up to seven members chosen on professional, not political, merit. Members would serve no more than two, five-year terms.

In addition, an advisory council - including representatives of the government, consumer organizations, industry, and suppliers - would be created for the purposes of making non-binding recommendations.

Boaz declined to comment on the report, as it had not yet received a copy.

August mutual fund redemptions reach NIS 204m.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MUTUAL funds suffered redemptions of NIS 204 million in August due to the public's preference to stay out of the market despite the stock exchange's recovery, according to a survey conducted by Meitav.

Mutual fund net redemptions have reached NIS 3.4 billion since the start of the year.

Mutual fund assets grew to NIS 16.66b. at the end of August compared with NIS 16.2b. at the end of July. Meitav attributed the rise to the funds' relatively high yields, which averaged 4.1% in August.

Veteran funds registered redemptions of NIS 300m. last month, while the new Epsilon Ksafim fund attracted NIS 95m. last month.

The rise of private brokers' share of the market to 14.5%, from 13.7% at the end of July, came at the expense of most of the larger institutions. At the end of last month, Bank Leumi's share of the market fell to 33.5%, from 33.8%, while Bank Hapoalim's share decreased to 28.7%, from 29.1%.

The market share of First International's Dikla fell to 6.4%, from 6.5%, while Ilanot-Discount's and Emda Mizrahi's market share remained unchanged, at 12.1% and 4.8% respectively.

Meitav said the rise in private brokers' market share was primarily due to the establishment of Epsilon Ksafim, a private fund, and one of three new funds created last month, increasing the number of funds to 304.

S. African business delegation arrives

RACHEL NEIMAN

A DELEGATION of 20 South African businessmen met yesterday with local counterparts.

Export Institute general director Amir Hayek said the purpose of the meeting was twofold: to familiarize the delegation with Israel's economic and industrial potential and to try and rebuild ties between the two countries.

The delegation is South Africa's first since the election of President Nelson Mandela last year.

Exports to South Africa were \$121m. in 1994, while imports totaled \$237.5m.

First Int'l provident funds up

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FIRST International Bank's provident funds reported yesterday positive real yields of between 1.45 percent and 2.53% in August.

The funds achieved average real yields of 5.59%-7.33% in the first eight months of the year.

Fund assets reached NIS 5.18 billion at the end of August.

The Meitav fund achieved a real yield of 1.91% in August and an accumulated return of 2.32% since the beginning of the year. The Atidut fund achieved a real yield of 1.9% last month and an accumulated return of 2.1%.

The Keren Hasefa fund achieved a real return of 1.91% last month and an accumulated return of 1.98%, while the Hamacha fund achieved a real yield of 1.25% in August and an accumulated yield of 2.05%.

Among the bank's smaller funds, P. International achieved a real yield of 1.67% in August and an accumulated return of 2.43%, while the Mistaalem A. and Mistaalem B funds each achieved a real yield of 1.91% in August and accumulated yields of 2.03% and 2.96% respectively.

Israel to raise capital on world market under own name for first time

ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL Shai Talmon said yesterday the state would use the next three years to raise money on world markets under its own name for the first time.

The independent Israeli offering in US financial markets is scheduled for November or December. Plans have already been announced to raise \$500 million via bond offerings as part of the US loan guarantees. Talmon said the independent

\$2m. offering would be another sign signaling Israel's entry into the West's financial world.

"We're not doing it out of a desperate desire for money," he said, adding the independent offerings will be in preparation for the next period, when the country won't have US loan guarantees.

In 1996, Israel plans independent offerings in Europe. Talmon added the country would also seek to enter Far Eastern capital markets. (fim)

Tsur calls for ILA, Wexler probe

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tsur yesterday called for an immediate investigation into Israel Lands Administration (ILA) and director general Uzi Wexler for their policy in the management of agricultural land intended for development.

Tsur urged the government to set up a special committee to probe Wexler's management of state land. He claimed ILA has never accepted government decisions regarding settlers' rights to agricultural land.

"Wexler behaves as if state land is his own private property and not a national resource of major importance," he said.

In response, ILA said, "If an investigative committee is founded at Tsur's request, ILA and its manager will be happy to give their view before the committee."

The ministry said ILA is charging "astronomical" sums of money from those interested in developing the new tourism district near Kiryat Shmona. In addition, it claims ILA charged very high prices from Kibbutz Ginossar, which wants to expand its guest house, and Moshav Regba, which wants to develop service routes.

"ILA is preventing entrepreneurs from going ahead with their land development plans," Tsur said. "The authority's actions prevent development and lead to a rise in land prices and in the Consumer Price Index," he added. "Instead of regarding state land as a national resource, which has to serve national objectives like the spread of population, development, and growth, ILA's head manages the land as if it is his own. I think this causes continued damage, to entrepreneurs, the index, and the price of land and settlers."

Dollar soars after Japan sells yen

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The dollar soared yesterday after the Bank of Japan took the currency market by surprise and bought dollars for yen.

The intervention came after Tokyo announced its current accounts surplus in July fell 20 percent to \$9.22 billion in July from a year earlier.

The currency market first shrugged off the numbers, but it was brought to attention when the Bank of Japan entered the market intent on moving the dollar higher.

The central bank intervention propelled the dollar toward a six-

month high against the yen, but after the US currency peaked at 99.20 yen it backed off.

"It was just seen as an overall dollar supportive measure," said Dennis Pettit, foreign exchange manager at Long-term Credit Bank of Japan.

He said the dollar moved up smartly against the yen and then against European currencies.

In late afternoon trading, the dollar stood at 98.85 Japanese yen, up from 97.70 yen late Tuesday. It also rose at 1.4763 German marks, up from 1.4622 marks Tuesday.

For much of the day in New York, the market was unmoved by the prospect of the Federal Reserve following Japan and buying more dollars. But dealers gingerly took profits when the Fed did not emerge.

Despite the dollar's inability to burst through to fresh highs vs. the yen, as it butted into significant technical resistance, some dealers saw fresh gains ahead.

The shrinking Japanese current account surplus over the US should provide a temporary salve to boost the dollar.

'Liquidators ruining Shapira's reputation'

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

LEGAL representatives for MK Avraham Shapira told the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday that Carmel Carpets' liquidators are ruining his reputation by misleading the press.

Attorneys Yigal Arnon and Ya'acov Weinroth requested that the court hold an immediate discussion regarding accusations made by the liquidators against Shapira, the former owner of Carmel, which went bankrupt in 1993 and was sold to the Eitani family last year.

The request was submitted in response to recently published newspaper reports claiming Shapira's family had not informed

the liquidators about property in Kfar Sava valued at some \$10 million.

According to Arnon and Weinroth, the property is private land owned by Concorde, a company owned by the Shapira family.

The lawyers claim that Concorde mortgaged the property against credit borrowed from Bank Leumi after Carmel's subsidiaries encountered problems in obtaining bank credit. Once the property was mortgaged, Concorde entered into a combination agreement with Leumi

subsidiary Africa Israel entitling it to a percentage of the building intended for the site.

Africa Israel gave a loan to Concorde to help repay its Leumi loan.

In the request, the lawyers said the liquidators' accusation that the property is worth \$10m. is exaggerated. Shapira claims the property is worth \$1.8m. and the liquidator was informed of the combination deal last November.

"It cannot be that every lie will be blamed on them [Shapira's family], while they have no legal help as if they were in Sodom," the lawyers said.

German GDP growth slows to 2.6%

WIESBADEN (Reuters) - German economic growth slowed in the first half of the year, confirming analysts' fears that higher taxes and the strong mark had taken their toll and putting the government's full year forecast beyond reach.

The gross domestic product of Europe's largest economy grew by 2.6 percent year-on-year in the first half of 1995, compared with 2.8% in the first half of 1994, the

Federal Statistics Office said yesterday.

Sluggish private consumption, lower export growth, and a sharp slowdown in construction were to blame for the slowdown which meant the nation would not now meet the government's full-year forecast of 3% growth, the office said.

The strength of the mark has been widely blamed by industry for damaging German competitiveness in its exports markets.

"These figures indicate that the economy has steadied but has not, as initially expected, strengthened," Hans Guenther Merk, president of the Statistics Office, said.

"On the other hand, the many pessimistic economic forecasts voiced in many quarters over recent weeks have not been confirmed," he added.

Mirage Multimedia signs deal with GT

MIRAGE Multimedia has signed a NIS 300,000 contract with US-based GT Interactive Software to translate the firm's games into German, French, Italian, and Spanish.

GT is a subsidiary of Good Times Home Video. The firm, founded in 1993, is the sole distributor of the popular computer game Doom as well as serving as a software distributor to Wal-Mart.

Mirage translates multimedia titles and games into Hebrew and Arabic, and is a local distributor for such products.

General manager Yaron Broderson estimates that revenues from adaptation/translation activity will reach NIS 1.5m. this year. The firm is negotiating several other projects with international multimedia firms. Rachel Neiman

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Co-op Blue Square purchase of Gamda okayed: Supervisor of Monopolies Yoram Turbovich approved a 50 percent purchase of Gamda by Co-op Blue Square. Co-op will pay NIS 6.6 million to Koor Trade, Gamda's owners. The Gamda chain has seven stores - in Acre, Haifa, Ramla, Tikva, Tel Aviv, Ashdod, and Beersheba - and employs 200 workers. The firm's turnover last year was NIS 120m. Rachel Neiman

Edusoft announced yesterday the signing of a marketing agreement with Swedish publisher Bonnier to sell the software maker's English Discoveries product in Scandinavia.

Bonnier, which received distribution rights to the school and home markets in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland, will pay royalties of at least \$200,000 to Edusoft by next February, as well as royalties of at least \$100,000 per year in the future. Rachel Neiman

Magic 6 wins competition: Magic 6 for Windows has won the PC Database Summit competition for "Fastest Implementation for a Client/Server Environment," which was recently held in Seattle, Washington. Rachel Neiman

Mivtahim Taganlim & Piznol provident fund achieved a real yield of 1.96 percent in August. The fund, with assets of NIS 50m., achieved an accumulated real yield of 5.5% since the beginning of the year. Galit Lipkis Beck

Menorah offers mortgages: Menorah Insurance has started a marketing campaign for mortgages. The company is offering mortgages, for various lengths of time, at an interest rate of 5.6%, the lowest in the mortgage market. The company said the offer will be available for a limited period. Galit Lipkis Beck

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Petah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.9.95)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.750	4.750	5.000
German mark (DM 200,000)	5.750	5.750	5.875
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.825	1.825	1.875
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (8.9.95)	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
Currency basket	3.4541	3.4784	3.4541	3.4784
U.S. dollar	3.4541	3.4784	3.4541	3.4784
German mark	2.0469	2.0708	2.0469	2.0708
French franc	4.8767	4.7922	4.8767	4.7922
Japanese yen (100)	1.9240	0.8028	1.9240	0.8028
Swiss franc	3.0593	3.1051	3.0593	3.1051
Dutch florin	1.2830	1.2855	1.2830	1.2855
Swedish krona	2.4862	2.5309	2.4862	2.5309
Norwegian krone	0.4138	0.4205	0.4138	0.4205
Danish krone	0.4679	0.4785	0.4679	0.4785
Finland mark	1.6578	1.6582	1.6578	1.6582
Canadian dollar	0.6844	0.6863	0.6844	0.6863
Australian dollar	2.2891	2.2900	2.2891	2.2900
S. African rand	0.8844	0.8977	0.8844	0.8977
Singapore dollar	0.5848	0.5907	0.5848	0.5907
Australian dollar (10)	2.2891	2.2900	2.2891	2.2900
Italian lire (1000)	1.9538	1.9539	1.9538	1.9539
Jordanian dinar	4.18	4.21	4.18	4.21
Egyptian pound	3.888	3.8977	3.888	3.8977
Israeli sheqel	4.7898	4.8327	4.7898	4.8327
Spanish peseta (100)	2.8003	2.8228	2.8003	2.8228

* Rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK
ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

PRIME 1719 Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 5.9.95

Purchase Price: 105.48

Redemption Price: 104.07

leumi pia מניין

(מטרה) TARGET 0210 Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 5.9.95

Purchase Price: 143.56

Redemption Price: 141.48

leumi pia מניין

Ministry of Transport
ISRAEL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
Invitation to tender No. 06/95
Doppler Weather Radar for the IMS

The period for submission of proposals has been extended until 27 September, 12 noon Israel time.

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Two-Sided index

vored to win nine out of 20 regional contracts offered by India's government. The HFCL-Bezeq group has offered \$27 billion as the license fee for providing services over the next 15 years. Top issue Bezeq closed unchanged.

Koor, which owns a 61.9% stake in Tadiran, rose 2.25%. The gain was "thanks to Tadiran," said Meir.

Maof Index-listed Osem Investments rose 2.25%. Investors were not influenced by Salomon Bros. cutting the share to "hold"

from "buy" yesterday morning," said Meir.

Gainers on the Two-Sided included Electra, which rose 4.75%. Two weeks ago, the company surprised investors by more than doubling second-quarter net profits to NIS 21.1m.

Analysts have now read the company's earnings reports and expect further increases in third-quarter profits, Meir said.

Two-Sided Index-listed She-
kem gained 4%.

Decliners included chemical shares, which were affected by a decline in worldwide chemical prices, according to Meir.

Maof Index-listed Israel Chemicals fell 2%, while ICL subsidiary Dead Sea Works, also on the index, fell 2%.

After trading closed in Tel Aviv, the Amex/Oscar Gruss Israel Index was down as much as 1.46 to 156.25. The index, which measures 11 Israeli companies traded in the US, closed at an annual high of 157.71 Tuesday. (Bloomberg)

FTSE hits all-time closing high

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Traders said it was only a matter of time before the DAX eclipsed the record level since the market was supported by strength in the dollar and a firmer German debt market.

PARIS - French shares finished lower as foreign investors exacerbated a bearish trend by stepping up sales of futures contracts, dealers said.

"The mood is really rotten, and foreigners are feeling turned off," a trader said.

The CAC-40 index closed down 17.71, or 0.93%, at 1,884.77. Volume was 3.8 billion francs.

Traders said a close so near to the 1,880 level left it poorly oriented, in technical terms.

TOKYO - The Tokyo stock market's benchmark Nikkei average closed lower on dealers' position adjustment in the late afternoon, brokers said.

Focus was on booming semiconductor-related shares and market participants paid little attention to overall stock indices, they said.

“Technical factors ahead of the settlement of September futures (on Friday) pulled down stock indexes, but few people paid atten-

The Nikkei average closed down 173.66 points, or 0.98% at 17,620.38.

13.7 points

Dow ends up 13.7 points

WALL STREET REPORT

age closed up 13.73 points at 4,683.81, according to early and unofficial estimates. Gains outpaced losers by a 4-3 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume reached 367 million shares.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	Sfr	Ffr
MARK	—	0.4365/66	66.86/66	0.8208/12	3.4441/46
STERLING	2.2855/05	—	153.31/43	1.8792/12	7.8847/06
YEN	1.4932/40	0.6518/23	—	1.2251/57	5.1404/55
Sfr	121.71/69	0.5316/22	61.55/68	—	4.1624/79
Ffr	0.2902/05	0.1257/68	19.42/49	0.2362/65	—

Prices from 23.00 local time

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Israel's European campaign over

DEREK FATTAL

ISRAEL'S last hope of securing a place in next summer's European Championship was put to rest in Kocise yesterday as the national squad fell to a 1-0 defeat at the hands of Slovakia in a Group 1 qualifier.

The team is now in fifth place in the six-team Group 1 standings, following Romania's 0-0 draw with Poland and France's 10-0 rout of Azerbaijan.

While Romania maintains its Group 1 lead, it is still a point short of qualifying for the finals.

The Israelis were sunk by a 54th-minute goal netted by Casimiro Salazar's young striker Tibor Jancula, that keeps Slovak aspirations of qualifying from Group 1 alive for the time being.

Despite the workmanlike confidence exhibited before the match, this turned out to be Israel's worst performance of the tournament by far, with the scoreline failing to reflect the absolute stranglehold the Slovaks had during the first 70 minutes of play.

What makes this defeat particularly hard to stomach is that Shlomo Scharf's men managed to play poorly against a team of a moderate stature.

All that was called for was a

gutsy show of the intelligent positive soccer that has been the hallmark of the side during its better moments in these European qualifying ties. What was served up for most of the game was a display that combined a defeatist spirit with sheer incompetence.

Apart from Tal Ben Haim, no Israeli player exhibited any sense of belief in furthering the cause as the ball was ineptly pushed around like a hot potato.

Center forward Ofer Mizrahi was hopeless up front. Some of his shooting efforts with just goalkeeper Ladislav Molnar to beat suggested he was auditioning for a video on "How not to score from close range," rather than appearing in international fixtures.

Eyal Berkowitz was even worse. Any European club coaches who might have been thinking of buying the nation's top player would not touch him with a bargepole after seeing last night's display.

Rafi Cohen's sprint out of goal to the left touchline at one point suggested he was off to buy the Slovak equivalent of a stadium hot dog - or was he really think-

ing he could make it to the ball? The Israelis failed to move competently from defense to midfield. Most attacking moves were broken down with ease by the large Slovak defenders, while the hosts found that heading towards Israel's penalty area was remarkably hassle-free.

Tactically, Scharf was way-off target. The Slovaks stuck to the exact same game plan that gave them a 2-0 lead at Ramat Gan last year - running play down the flanks rather than through the middle. They put particular emphasis on Israel's right side of defense where Alon Harezi was playing as full back instead of his natural role at central defender. This should have been predicted, whereas the Israelis looked completely surprised by the quick attacking passing work displayed by Peter Dubovsky and Lubomir Moravcik.

By the end of the first half the Slovaks should have been at least three goals ahead.

Any notion that the pattern might be changed by the introduction of Ronny Rosenthal for Nir Kliger as the second half

began was quickly dispelled. The hosts opened with all guns blazing - registering four clear attempts on Cohen's goal before Jancula pounced.

The goal itself was a total embarrassment. Jancula got the ball outside the Israeli area and just ran at Moshe Glan who seemed happy to obstruct rather than go for the ball. The goal-hungry Jancula pressed on, sidestepped the unfortunate Glan and blasted past Gadi Brumer and Cohen.

Matters improved with the 65th-minute replacement of Berkovitz by Eli Driks.

In the final 20 minutes, the Slovaks looked tired, enabling Haim Revivo to make an impression and create two good shooting chances for himself as well as clear opportunities for Driks and Mizrahi. The two Israeli forwards could have grabbed a goal in the last minute.

European Nations' Championship qualifying group 1

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Romania	8	5	3	0	15	6	15
France	8	5	3	0	17	1	14
Poland	8	3	3	2	13	8	12
Slovakia	8	3	2	3	10	15	11
Israel	8	2	3	3	11	9	9
Azerbaijan	8	0	0	8	2	27	0

Remaining matches: October 11 - Romania v France, Israel v Azerbaijan, Slovakia v Poland, November 15 - Slovakia v Romania, Azerbaijan v Poland, France v Israel

Seles heads for semifinals

NEW YORK (AP) - Faced with her first real challenge, Monica Seles was more than ready.

Seles won a spot in the semifinals of the US Open with a hard-fought 7-6(7-5), 6-2 victory over fifth-seeded Jana Novotna yesterday, then made a triumphant tour of Louis Armstrong Stadium, signing autographs for fans who had flocked to court.

In tomorrow's semis, she will face fourth-seeded Conchita Martinez, who beat No. 16 Brenda Schultz-McCarthy of the Netherlands, 3-6, 7-6(7-3), 6-2.

It was the toughest match Seles has had since returning to tennis following her two-year absence caused by her stabbing. But she was up to the task. Until yesterday, Seles had had her serve broken only four times in her nine matches since her comeback began, and only twice in this, the year's final Grand Slam tournament. Novotna broke her three times in the first set, in the third, fifth and 11th games.

"I played a very good first set," Novotna said. "I was up 4-2. I really thought I had a good chance today because Monica wasn't serving that well. She was always serving to my backhand, which is to my advantage."

But Novotna failed to take advantage. Seles, of course, had a lot to do with that.

The only American left in the women's field - albeit a naturalized one - Seles staved off two set points in the 12th game, breaking Novotna's service to send the set into a tiebreak, which she controlled.

The other semifinal will pit top-seeded Steffi Graf and No. 9 Gabriela Sabatini. Graf downed Amy Frazier 6-2, 6-3 and Sabatini defeated No. 14 Mary Joe Fernandez 6-1, 6-1 two days after Fernandez eliminated defending champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Late last night, the men also were in action with No. 4 seed Boris Becker taking on unseeded American Patrick McEnroe and Andre Agassi faced Czech Petr Korda in the quarter-finals.

In the second round of the boys matches, Harel Levy of Israel, defeated Jean-Franco Bachelot (12), France, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

TUESDAY'S PLAY

Pete Sampras, seeded second, ousted No. 15 Todd Martin 7-6(7-4), 6-3, 6-4 to reach the quarter-finals. Joining him are Michael Chang who stopped Australian Michael Tabbott 6-2, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; and Jim Courier, No. 14, who eliminated No. 3 Thomas Muster 6-3, 6-0, 7-6(7-4).

The only non-American in the bottom half of the draw, Zimbabwe's Byron Black, was an all-American at Southern Cal, where he won the NCAA doubles title in 1989. He reached the quarters by upsetting eighth-seeded Michael Stich 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 6-3.

Today, Chang will play Courier and Sampras will take on Black.

In Black, Sampras will face a 5-foot-9 opponent who hits two-handed from both sides and whose only tournament title came in Bombay in May.

Steelers' Woodson out for season

PITTSBURGH (AP) - The Pittsburgh Steelers All-Pro cornerback Rod Woodson, who missed only four games to injury in eight NFL seasons, has a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. He will undergo surgery later this week and probably won't play again until 1996.

To make matters worse, Steelers' quarterback Neil McDowell is out for four-to-six weeks after suffering a broken finger.

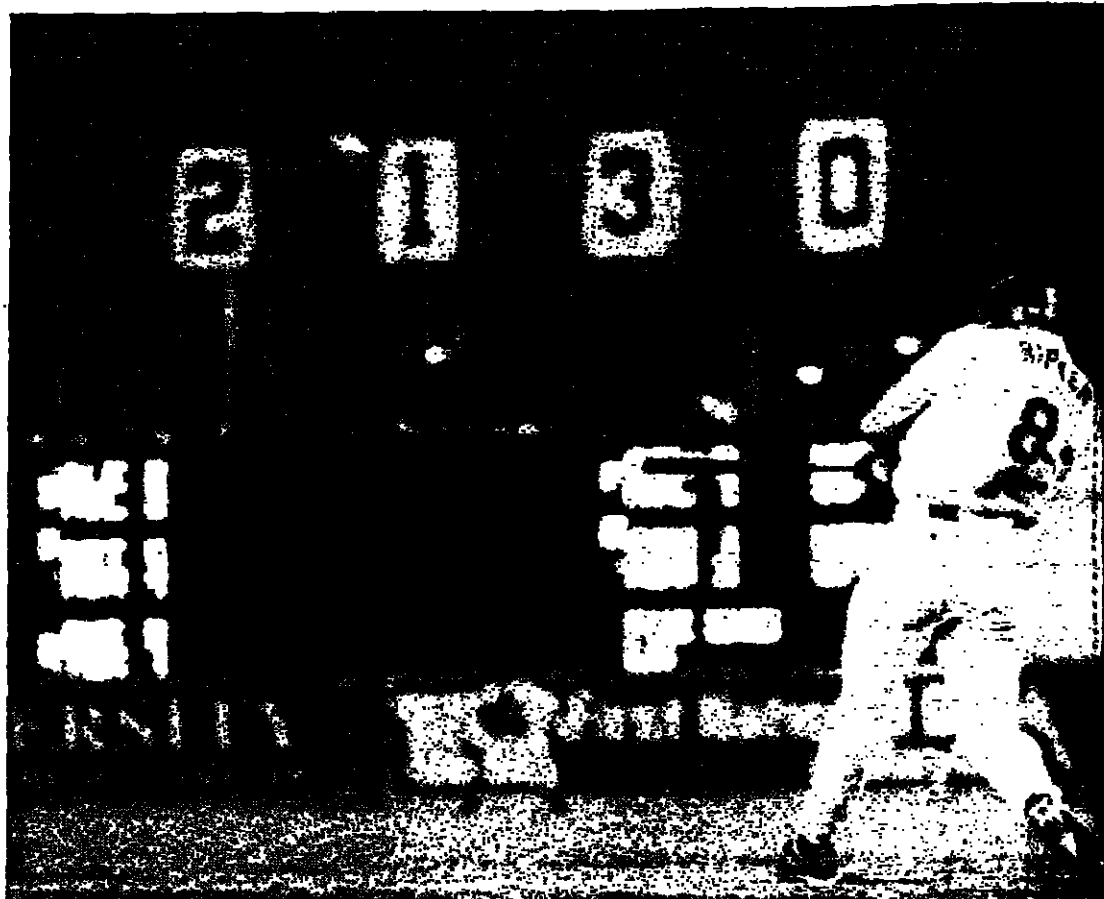
Woodson, voted to the NFL's 75th anniversary All-Time team last season, was hurt as he reached to his left to make an arm tackle on Detroit's Barry Sanders. Woodson's right leg planted in Three Rivers Stadium's artificial turf and stuck, and the knee gave way.

The Steelers have discussed replacing the artificial turf with grass, but growing grass in a multipurpose stadium used all but

three months a year in a cold-weather city is difficult.

Still, Woodson's injury is the latest in a series of turf-related problems to strike the NFL in less than a month.

Woodson and Cincinnati's Ki-Jana Carter, the No. 1 overall pick in the April draft, already have been lost to season-ending injuries, and an exhibition game in Houston was cancelled because of turf problems.



A PERFECT NIGHT - Cal Ripken homers in the sixth inning against a Camden Yards backdrop which shows he's tied Lou Gehrig's record of 2130 straight games. (AP)

Ripken ties Gehrig

BALTIMORE (AP) - The evening had gone exactly the way Cal Ripken hoped it would, with him playing a starring role on the night he tied one of sports' most hallowed records.

So naturally, on the eve of breaking Lou Gehrig's mark of playing 2,130 consecutive games, Ripken was already preparing for the next day.

"I have a very big event tomorrow," he said late Tuesday night, after leading the Baltimore Orioles over California 8-0. "It involves my daughter. It's her first day of school and I planned on getting up and taking her to school."

Last night, Rachel Ripken, 5, was to join her dad at Camden Yards for his other big event - game No. 2,131 and baseball history.

Ripken, ever the team player, wanted to make these two games memorable for more than just the record. The Orioles are struggling on the fringe of falling out of wild-card contention, and need wins.

Ripken did his part, hitting one of Baltimore's six home runs and adding two singles. Cheered from before the first pitch until after a 45-minute pregame ceremony, he also put the finishing touches on the victory by fielding a grounder and making a throw for the final out.

"We got some hits, scored some runs. It was a great game to be a part of," he said. "I'm not a script writer, but I think it worked out pretty well."

Scott Erickson (10-10) held the AL West-leading Angels to three hits, striking out nine in his first shutout of the season.

"It was nice to have a shutout

and everything, but it really wouldn't have mattered a whole lot to me," he said. "I was just glad to pitch in this game and I was real happy for Cal."

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime event, the most memorable event for many of our careers," he said.

Even Jim Edmonds, who went 0-for-4 for the Angels, didn't seem to mind this defeat.

"I'm tremendously happy for the guy," he said. "I'm glad I was here and a part of it - win or lose."

Ripken had asked in advance that the game not be stopped to honor him. That was about the only thing he did not get.

The game was held up for a 5-minute, 20-second standing ovation in the fifth inning when it became official. All players on the Orioles and Angels stood and cheered with the crowd of 46,804, along with the four umpires.

When Ripken ran to his position at shortstop to start the sixth, second base umpire Greg Kosc shook hands with him. And, as if to prove he deserved such recognition, Ripken hit a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth.

Brady Anderson homered twice and doubled for the Orioles, who were one short of the team record for home runs in a game. Baltimore tied a club mark set in 1967 with four homers in an inning.

Chris Hoiles led off the second with a homer off Brian Anderson (6-8). One out later, Jeff Manto, Mark Smith and Anderson connected, sending the Angels to their 13th loss in 15 games.

Those balls flying out of the park, by the way, were part of a specially stamped batch bearing Ripken's name - it's the first time

a ball used in a major league game has carried a player's name.

Ripken's 14th home run, and second in two days, was caught in left field by Mike Stin, 32, a homebuilder and Orioles season-ticket holder from Sykesville, Maryland.

"I have already been offered as high as \$2,500 for the ball, but it is not for sale. Maybe me and Cal can work something out," Stin said.

"It would be nice to have it," Ripken said. "It means something. But I have the memory of rounding the bases after hitting the home run inside me and I don't need a ball to remind of that."

Besides, Ripken wound up with another ball that was equally significant.

In a postgame tribute that included gifts from former Baltimore Colts quarterback Johnny Unitas, career home run leader Hank Aaron and NBA star David Robinson, it was a ball presented by Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Jim Gott that really seemed to move him.

Gott earned his first major league win on May 30, 1982, the same day Ripken started his streak. Gott had saved the game ball since then, but was on hand to present the memento to Ripken.

"I told him I didn't want to accept it," Ripken said. "We all carved out our moments, and that is one of his. I told him, 'You don't have to do this. This is your moment, this is your career.' I was very honored that he would want to give it to me. There have been many things that come close to choking you up," he said. "That was a biggie."

England, Colombia in 0-0 draw

WEMBLEY (AP) - England twice hit the crossbar and once hit the post against Colombia in an exhibition soccer game yesterday but also allowed the skillful South Americans a series of scoring chances in a 0-0 tie.

Alan Shearer and Denis Wise both fired shots against the bar and Paul Gascoigne hit the post as enterprising England was unlucky not to find the net.

But Freddy Rincon forced England goalkeeper David Seaman into a spectacular save and Carlos Valderrama and Ivan Valencia missed the target when they should have scored in an entertaining game before only 20,000 fans.

Experts and playing keep-ball, the Colombians, who beat the United States 4-1 July 22 to claim third place in the Copa America, spent much of the game stringing together passes without moving forward.

And they were caught out early in the game by some slick approach work by an England team hoping to bounce back from a 3-1 home defeat by Brazil in its last game.

In the eighth minute Gascoigne, starting an England game for the first time in 18 months, split the Colombian defense with a pass through to lone striker Shearer, whose lobbed shot hit the bar and bounced clear.

A minute later, Shearer got away again and his powerful shot was palmed round the post by goalkeeper Rene Higuita.

Cantona gets death threat

LONDON (AP) - British police are taking seriously a death threat made against Manchester United star Eric Cantona and team manager Alex Ferguson.

The threat came from a man claiming to be a supporter of the French striker's former club, Leeds United.

In a call to Football Monthly magazine, the man said a group of Leeds supporters would be carrying weapons when the club plays United at home on December 24. "We will give them hell when they come here," the caller allegedly told magazine editor Tony Flood. "This is a serious threat. We're all carrying weapons and know how to use them."

"Such matters are always taken seriously," the police said. "Anyone who causes any trouble or attempts to enter the ground with weapons will be dealt with quickly."

Cantona is currently serving a nine-month suspension for attacking a Crystal Palace supporter with a knee-kick in January. He is eligible to return to action on October 1.

Italian suspended for faking foul

ROME (Reuters) - Internazionale and Italy forward Marco Delvecchio became the first player in Serie A history to be suspended for faking a foul.

Delvecchio, who was booked for the August 27 offense in Milan, was also fined 1.5 million lire (\$1,000).

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	76	44	.633	-
Pittsburgh	71	49	.590	16
Montreal	59	61	.492	28
Florida	54	66	.450	33
New York	53	67	.442	34

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	74	46	.617	-
Houston	72	48	.598	12.5
Chicago	61	59	.508	23
Philadelphia	51	69	.426	33
St. Louis	50	70	.413	34.5

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	64	58	.523	-
Colorado	62	58	.517	1
San Diego	58	61	.487	5.5
San Francisco	58	63	.478	5

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	76	45	.625	-
New York	69	51	.575	7.5
Baltimore	56	65	.463	19.5
Detroit	50	70	.417	26
Toronto	50	71	.413	26.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	83	37	.688	-
Kansas City	62	58	.517	21
Minnesota	59	62	.488	24.5
Chicago	56	64	.466	27.5
Minnesota	46	74	.378	37.5

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	68	54	.557	-
Detroit	62	58	.517	5.5
Texas	50	61	.446	7.5
Oakland	50	63	.444	8

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:

Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0; Houston 10, Cincinnati 1; Los Angeles 2, Philadelphia 1; New York 4, San Diego 0; San Francisco 9, Montreal 6.

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS: Boston 7, Oakland 4 (14); Baltimore 6, California 0; Seattle 6, New York 1 (11); Kansas City 3, Toronto 8 (10); Cleveland 7, Milwaukee 3.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

Quality Classifieds

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Sunday Weekly - NIS 87.75 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 8.77.

FRIDAY AND HOLIDAY EVE - NIS 128.70 for 10 words (minimum); each additional word NIS 12.87.

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SLA officer killed in Hizbullah attacks

A SOUTH Lebanese Army officer was killed and a soldier wounded yesterday in an attack by Hizbullah gunmen on an SLA patrol in the eastern sector of the security zone.

The attack and earlier shelling of IDF and SLA positions in the same area sparked heavy exchanges, with fighting continuing for several hours.

The fighting erupted in the afternoon when gunmen fired Katyusha rockets, mortars, and

DAVID RUDGE

rocket propelled grenades at IDF and SLA positions in the Rehan and Soujud areas, according to reports from Lebanon.

Around the same time, gunmen apparently fired several Sagger anti-tank missiles at an SLA convoy, killing a unit commander and wounding a soldier, the reports said.

IDF and SLA gunners blasted suspected terrorist targets north

of the zone, especially in the Iqim al-Toufah region.

There were no immediate reports of casualties among the attackers.

Further fighting was reported later in the evening around Barasheet in the western sector of the zone.

Reports from Lebanon said gunmen fired several mortars at an SLA position in the area, apparently without effect. IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

Weizman attacked for criticizing government

A POLITICAL mini-storm raged around President Ezer Weizman yesterday, after his spokesman confirmed that he had criticized the government's handling of talks with the PLO.

This is not the first time that Weizman has expressed displeasure with the government's negotiating stance.

But while in the past he aired his views publicly, his latest comments were made in a private conversation with American rabbis invited here by the government as supporters of its policies.

The remarks were leaked by participants in the conversation and were first aired on Channel 2's news magazine.

Weizman's chief criticism was that the government is divesting itself of Judea and Samaria much too quickly. By the time talks about the final settlement begin, he argued, Israel will be left without any assets with which to bargain.

SARAH HONIG

Arye Shumer, the head of Weizman's office, confirmed that the statements had been made.

"We are not going to deny that this is what was said, though it is unfortunate that the content of what was to have been a private conversation was leaked," Shumer said. "But the fact is that the president said what he was reported to have said, and there is no intention on our part to claim otherwise."

Shumer argued that "when a president perceives a situation which gives rise to concern, it is his duty to sound the warning bells."

The president has the same right to speak his mind as does every citizen and as do members of the press. Freedom of speech applies to him too."

While opposition greeted Weizman's statements with quiet gratification, many in the coal-

ition were livid. Meretz MK Dedi Zucker charged that "once again Weizman is taking sides. We had talked with him about it in the past and I had hoped that this would end the phenomenon, but apparently it did not."

"The president cannot liken himself to any other citizen; he must stay above politics, and I would say this even if he spoke out against the right."

However, he admitted that what upsets him most is the fact that "tomorrow choice quotes from what the president said will appear on demonstrators' placards and will be liberally quoted by the opposition. Weizman is giving them ammunition. At least once, I would like to hear him say something favoring the left."

Similar comments came from Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who said perhaps "there should be some good hard discussion about the role of the president."

Supreme Court to rehear Nahmani's request to implant fertilized eggs

RUTI Nahmani's attempts to become a mother got a boost yesterday when the Supreme Court, sitting in a rare 11-judge panel, ruled to rehear her request to implant her and ex-husband Danny Nahmani's fertilized eggs into a surrogate mother.

By an 8-3 ruling, the court rejected Danny Nahmani's appeal claiming that the Supreme Court president did not have the authority to call for an additional hearing with a larger panel on a matter that had already been heard by an expanded panel of five justices.

Such a panel had ruled 4 to 1 in March that Ruti Nahmani could not have the eggs implanted since Danny, who has since had children with another woman, had withdrawn his consent. After the ruling, Ruti Nahmani petitioned to have the case reheard by a larger panel, and Supreme Court president Meir Shamgar, who has

since retired, agreed.

Danny Nahmani's lawyer, Diana Har-Even, said the court president could only call for such action in cases that had been heard by a three-justice panel. Har-Even said the court was empowered to interpret the law, not to change it.

Justice Dov Levin asked Har-Even if there was not a need, in light of the vital issues that come up for discussion in the Supreme Court, to discuss such matters in a wider forum, since according to her system, any ruling by a panel larger than three justices would be final. Har-Even responded that the court sits as an interpreter of the law, not as a legislative body.

When the Supreme Court president's authority was determined in legislation at the beginning of the 1990s, it was determined that he had the authority to call an additional hearing of a case that was

heard by a three-justice panel if it was of special significance. At that time, the court was made up of five justices and only three-justice panels heard appeals, with five-justice panels considered rare.

Today the court has 14 justices, with most cases heard before three justices, but five-justice panels are not as rare as in the past.

Ruth Nahmani's lawyer, Ziv Gruber, argued that the appeal by her ex-husband against the ruling by Shamgar undermined the fundamental principles of the Israeli legal system, which granted the court president the authority to call for another hearing on issues of special significance.

He said that when the language of the law and its essence conflict the court must prefer the interpretation which serves the essence of the law.

The court is to give its reasons for its ruling at a later date. (Iim)



National Religious Party secretary-general Zevulun Oriev dedicates the party's new Jerusalem headquarters yesterday. (Efraim Kishchok)

Man who killed lawyer remanded

ARYE Mehurash, 45, the convict who shot dead lawyer Avi Oren, was remanded for 15 days by Petah Tikva Magistrate's Court yesterday.

In court, he said he expressed regret for shooting Oren five times.

Oren was shot as he sat with Mehurash, serving a 15-year sentence for armed robbery. Letters written by Oren had helped Mehurash get furloughs from jail, when they had been previously refused.

Mehurash said he had not meant to kill Oren, but got angry after he refused to give him money from a trust fund he had deposited with him three years ago.

Mehurash, who has spent most of his life in prison for violent

RAINE MARCUS

crimes, said he had given Oren the money he received from an inheritance for safekeeping. Oren had given him money on each of his furloughs, but this time, Mehurash said, he had refused, saying he did not have it.

Mehurash was not represented by an attorney.

He told police he had taken the pistol intending to surprise Oren, but that after a fight, the weapon accidentally went off.

But police said he had planned the murder a few hours before-hand, and had even visited a cemetery to say Kaddish for his intended victim. He had taken the pistol, stolen three years ago, from a hiding place and had even

made an improvised silencer. After killing Oren, said police, Mehurash had wrecked the office to make it seem that a row had broken out between the two.

Police arrived within minutes. If they had not have arrived so quickly, Mehurash would have escaped, police said. Realizing that he could not flee, he barricaded himself into the office, until he surrendered nine hours later. In his defense, Mehurash said that he had told Oren that he needed the money, but that the latter had said he did not have it.

"I left the office and returned in 25 minutes," he said. "I took the gun just to frighten him. I am not a bad man and did not mean to kill him. He was a good friend of mine for 25 years."

Namir, Susan Mubarak meet in Beijing

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir yesterday met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's wife, Susan Mubarak, in Beijing, where the two are heading their countries' delegations to

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

the UN Conference on Women. Several television networks, including the Egyptian one, covered the meeting, which was held

at Mubarak's invitation at her suite in the Beijing Hilton and lasted for 40 minutes.

Sources in the Israeli delegation described the meeting as warm and cordial, noting that the Egyptians had initiated the wide media coverage to emphasize the political significance of the get-together.

Diplomatic observers said the meeting was intended, among other things, mainly to relieve the tension between Israel and Egypt over the alleged massacre of POWs from both sides and the Egyptians' demand that Israel investigate reports of the killing of Egyptian POWs.

During the meeting, Mubarak told Namir of the obstacles placed by the Egyptian opposition in the way of the peace process. She emphasized that the important thing is that both Israel and Egypt's leaders are determined to achieve peace and are doing everything in their power to obtain it.

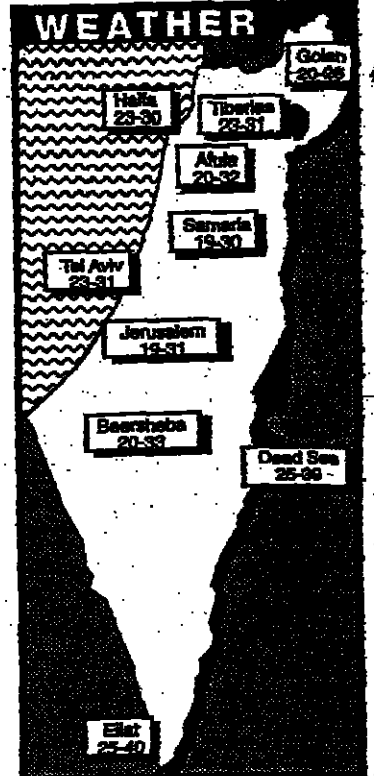
Mubarak also said that anyone who has suffered wars would do anything to prevent their recurrence, "because we have all lost sons, relatives, friends and dear ones."

Policeman injured in demonstration

A policeman was burned and had to be taken to the hospital when police broke up a demonstration by angry workers of the Fertilizers and Chemicals firm in Kiryat Ata yesterday. The policemen suffered second degree burns on his leg.

Police said that the incident occurred during a stormy demonstration by over 500 workers from the financially-troubled company.

The demonstrators, who were protesting against non-payment of their wages for as much as three months, were dispersed by the police, who detained four union leaders for questioning. They were released on bail. David Rudge



Forecast: No change in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	L	F	C	P
Alexandria	11	22	82	Cloudy
Bahia	17	25	89	Cloudy
Buenos Aires	22	29	84	Cloudy
Cairo	22	29	84	Cloudy
Chengdu	22	29	84	Cloudy
Guangzhou	22	29	84	Cloudy
Hong Kong	22	29	84	Cloudy
London	15	22	72	Cloudy
Los Angeles	18	25	77	Cloudy
Madrid	18	25	77	Cloudy
Manila	22	29	84	Cloudy
Moscow	15	22	72	Cloudy
New York	18	25	77	Cloudy
Paris	18	25	77	Cloudy
Rangoon	22	29	84	Cloudy
Seoul	15	22	72	Cloudy
Taipei	22	29	84	Cloudy
Tokyo	18	25	77	Cloudy
Yokohama	18	25	77	Cloudy

2-year-old shot in head

Maryam Awadeh, 2, of Kfar Kanna, near Nazareth, was seriously wounded in the head by an air rifle pellet yesterday. Police said the shot was fired at close range, and her father was arrested when he came to visit her at Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where she underwent surgery. (Iim)

Safed municipality employees arrested for possible bribery

DAVID RUDGE

TWO senior officials of the Safed municipality were arrested yesterday, when police raided the city council offices and confiscated scores of documents.

Police armed with search warrants also went to the home of Mayor Moshe Hanitya and took away documents. Hanitya told reporters he had not been questioned and denied being involved in any wrongdoing.

Police are investigating alleged financial irregularities, administrative improprieties, breach of trust, and even the possibility that certain officials may have accepted bribes.

The municipal treasurer and the city engineer were detained for questioning.

The inquiries reportedly began several weeks ago and police have since been collecting evidence.

According to police sources, some very senior municipal figures have been implicated and more arrests are expected.

20 suspected drug dealers arrested

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE arrested 20 suspected drug dealers in a massive raid on houses in the Triangle village of Taibe early yesterday morning.

The raids were made possible by an undercover agent, who agreed to help police in return for the dropping of charges against him.

While police usually conduct such raids on small-time dealers, those arrested yesterday allegedly dealt large quantities of heroin and cocaine.

Taibe has long been a center for large-scale drug and weapon dealing. During the raid, police found pistols, rifles, grenades, a LAW rocket, and ammunition.

Police also believe they have solved the murder of Hod Hasharona, garage owner Shlomo Dvli, 40, who was gunned down two months ago at the entrance to a Taibe spare parts store, owned by the Abdel Kadar clan.

Over the past two years the clan has been at war with the Hariri family, and seven members of both families have been killed in shootouts in the streets of the village.

Sharon police chief Dep. Cmdr. Bertie Obayon said that some 50 policemen had been assigned to the murder, not only in an attempt to solve the case, but to "reduce" increasing violent crime in Taibe.

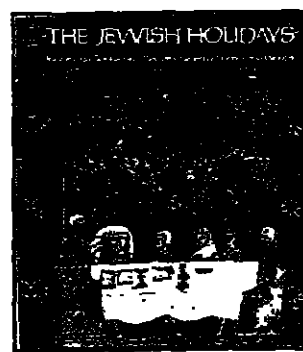
CELEBRATION OF JEWISH HOLIDAYS



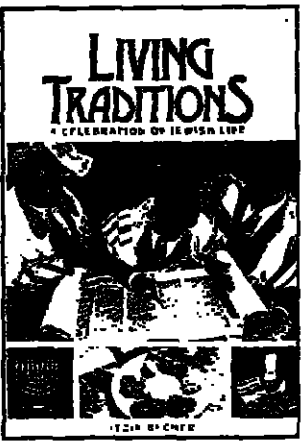
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Jerusalem	Mo'adon Ha'oleh	8:00 a.m.
	Binyanei Ha'uma	8:00 a.m.
Karmiel	Outside Post Office	8:00 a.m.
Nahariya	Bus Station	8:00 a.m.
Ashkelon	Opposite Bus Station	8:00 a.m.
Ashdod	Bus Station	8:30 a.m.
Safed	Yigal Allon Center	7:30 a.m.
Beersheba	Bus Station	7:30 a.m.
Arad	Bus Station	7:30 a.m.
Dimona	Matnass Dimona	7:00 a.m.
Haifa	Alongside Bus Station	8:30 a.m.
Tel Aviv	Hechal Hatarbut	8:30 a.m.
Ra'anana	Yad Lebanim	9:00 a.m.
Gush Etzion	Efrat Commercial Center	8:00 a.m.
Beit Shemesh + Givat Sharett	Bus Station at the Junction	8:30 a.m.

Return time from Wingate will be announced later.

Ticket Hotline: 09-989149/982957

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